

~~X~~ THE *Fanny Wingham 1800*

1082  
OF  
THE SOCIETY  
FOR  
BETTERING THE CONDITION  
AND  
INCREASING THE COMFORTS  
OF THE POOR.

VOL. II.

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## PREFATORY INTRODUCTION

TO THE

### SECOND VOLUME.

UPON the commencement of our second volume, I hope the reader will pardon me, if I intrude on his time for a few minutes, by a statement of the circumstances, which have called for the establishment of a "society for bettering the condition and increasing the comforts of the poor,"—by a recapitulation of the objects and views of the society, and by an account of the progress already made, and of the hopes that are entertained that our inquiries and exertions may prove useful to the community.

The increase of the poor's-rate has been for some years a just subject of alarm. Complaints have been made, and with too much reason, of the pre-

valence and magnitude of the evil. Two millions and a half annually expended in parochial relief, and a larger sum in charities and benefactions, producing no improvement in the condition of the poor, but rather prejudicing their means of life by the general effects of the system,—this is a mystery in our internal polity, difficult, but very important to be explained.

To some it has appeared the necessary consequence of national prosperity. That, however, must be a very equivocal species of prosperity, which is inimical to the comfort and happiness of the great mass of the people, and tends to diminish their means of life.—By others it has been deemed a symptom of national decline, common to all states which have passed their zenith;—but this opinion is controverted by increase of trade and manufactures, by improvements in agriculture and every art and science, and by the unrivalled energy and glory which attend the British arms in every quarter of the globe.—Others have conceived that speculation in estates, a

noxious tribe of land valuers and rent-raisers, and the consequent press on the farmer to make his *present* greatest profit with the *least possible out-goings*, have given birth to an improvident system with regard to the poor; hostile to any permanent improvement in their condition, and operating to discourage foresight and good habits among them.

Efforts have not been wanting to check this growing evil. Laws have been made to *compel* industry and economy; and workhouses have been erected, and *farmed* to the best bidder, in order to deter the poor from *wanting* relief: but parishes and parish officers have not as yet been aware that in every instance, in which a poor family is driven by distress and depression of circumstances to take refuge in a workhouse, an incumbrance has been entailed on the funds of the parish, never to be redeemed, even in part, except by a change of system;—by *encouraging* that industry and prudence, which no Act of Parliament can *compel*; and by assisting them with increased means and advantages of life,

Measures  
adopted to  
prevent it.

calculated to enable them to support themselves and their families in their own cottages, without parochial relief.

The poor, in some parts of England, have been deprived of many of their resources;\* and have been reduced, as their sole subsistence, to the purchase of daily bread with the daily stipend of their labour. This has gradually deprived them of forecast, and of every effort that looks to futurity; and has left them to proceed in a spiritless continuation of daily labour, until sickness, misfortune, or increase of family, drives them into the workhouse; there to remain the life pensioners of the public, and to leave their widows the nurses

\* “Whoever travels through the midland counties, and will take the trouble of inquiring, will generally receive for answer, that formerly there were a great many cottagers who kept cows, but that the land is now thrown to the farmers; and if he inquires still further, he will find that, in those parishes, the poor’s-rates have increased in an amazing degree.” —The Earl of Winchilsea on the advantages of cottagers renting land. See No. 17 of the Society’s Reports.

and drudges of the house, and their children to acquire idle and unprincipled habits, among the dregs of the parish.

The land owner should be aware that this is *waste committed upon his estate*, in the most destructive and irreparable way. It is not the pulling down of an unnecessary hovel, the premature repetition of a crop of wheat corn, or the ploughing up a slip of pasture ground (the usual trivial objects of impeachment of waste) that is the subject of consideration; but it is the relaxation of the nerve of the country, the destruction of the power of cultivating the land, the conversion of the strength and energy of a people into weakness and debility, and the exchange of the means of wealth and prosperity for sources of enormous and increasing expence.

Injury to the landed interest.

It is an essential part of political wisdom to give scope and increase to the energy of individuals, by affording to all the opportunity and hope of advancement in life. Where character, conduct, industry, and

Probable effects of encouragement.



attention, receive their assured reward, candidates will not be wanting; and the example of a few will be reflected in the virtues of the many. If the child, in proportion to diligence and good conduct, be better fed, better clothed, more favoured, and have that pittance of reward laid up in store, which in their narrow scale of life constitutes wealth, the number of industrious and well behaved children will increase:—if the young man finds that, by reserving out of his wages a little fund of wealth against his marriage,\*  
he can convert these early savings into the means of increased produce and comfort during life, and become the possessor of a cow, a garden, and his own cottage, he will acquire

\* One of my earliest pleasures, in part of my youth spent in America, was to view the eagerness with which the young labourer laid up the greatest part of his earnings, confident that when he married and settled in life, it would secure him the property of a comfortable house and a little land, and assist with his daily labour in the support of his family. The advanced state of society may prevent the whole of this example from being imitable in England: this, however, I trust will not be questioned; that if young labouring men in

early habits of prudence and economy, and will enter into life with a better and more principled system of conduct:—and if the cottager who exerts himself in bringing up and placing out his family, is encouraged and assisted in his honest endeavours; and, in case of any untoward and unfortunate interruption of his plan of economy, receives timely relief, and is preserved from the apprehension of a workhouse, the thrift and the success of a few will produce many imitators; and the prospect of improved circumstances will awaken the energy of the poor,\* in every part of the kingdom.

England could be induced to lay up a little provision against marriage, to purchase a cow, and a leasehold interest in a cottage and a little pittance of ground, our youth would be more virtuous and industrious, the cottager and his family more happy and contented; the prosperity of the country would be increased, and the poor's-rate diminished.

\* I use the word “poor” as a general and known term, and not as the subject of any odious or invidious distinction. There is no disgrace attached either to poverty or wealth, whatever there is, and I trust ever will be, to vice and idleness.



Many and various would be the advantages, of giving to the poor a pleasing and beneficial employment for their leisure hours, and affording them the means of productive husbandry at home, and within their own cottage and ground;—of supplying them to more advantage with the necessaries of life, and of relieving them from the burthen of their children, by placing them in a course of industry and occupation.—Where measures of this kind can be brought to produce *any effect at all* on millions, the benefit must be of very great magnitude. We may calculate the number of little hands hitherto idle, and now by a proper system of employment to be brought into action; we may estimate, *in part*, the benefit of so numerous a class of men being protected from petty extortion and imposition, and being fairly and honestly supplied with the necessaries of life; and we may reckon up, by long arithmetical deduction, the number of acres which might be advantageously cultivated, and the myriads of hours which would be added to the amount

of national labour, if every cottager was permitted and encouraged to improve the slips of waste land, which still remain in every part of the country, a discredit to the English nation :—but it is not within the compass of political arithmetic, to calculate the increase of prosperity and security, which we *might* derive from the general introduction of such a system.

It is the endeavour of the society (and whatever deficiency there may be, we trust that on so important a subject, zeal and attention, at least, will not be wanting) to search for and disseminate *useful and practical knowledge with regard to the poor*; to co-operate in every plan that tends to increase their economy and domestic comfort; to hold up the industrious and thriving cottager as an example of imitation; and to promote his good habits, his industry, his welfare, and his happiness. At the same time, we are not unmindful of the danger of diminishing the inducements to exertion, by theoretical philanthropy, or by injudicious or misap-

The object  
of the so-  
ciety stated.

plied liberality; which may habituate the mind to a reliance on regular and periodical assistance, and (making exertion and foresight of less moment) deprive the poor of that best and most honourable relief, which can only be derived from themselves. It is of the utmost consequence that charity be directed to her true end; that of elevating and benefiting the object of her attention, instead of rendering it helpless and without resource; and that she should operate by increasing the energy, the virtue, and the hopes of the poor; so as to attach them to their situation in life, and to give stability and principle to the moral and religious character of so large and so valuable a part of the community.

Impressed with this idea, the society has proposed that the principle, which has directed the researches of the present age, in natural philosophy, in agriculture, in medicine, in every art and science in which the limits of human knowledge have been successfully extended,—that this principle

Use to be made of the desire of bettering our condition.

should be adopted in the concerns of the poor; and actual existing facts be made the means of practical and systematic investigation, into what has *really* augmented their virtue and happiness, and has been sanctioned by use and experience.—After a variety of inefficacious attempts, during more than two centuries *to enforce industry and prudence by penal laws and compulsory statutes*, the society has ventured to submit to the consideration of the public,\* whether the same object may not be attained by encouragement, by kindness, by management,—and by giving effect to that master-spring of action, “the desire implanted in the human breast of bettering its condition.” The influence of this invigorating spirit on commerce, on manufactures, and on agriculture, has been felt and acknowledged with pride and pleasure by every Englishman: and there can remain no doubt but that the same principle, which has produced such beneficial effects among the thriving and active

\* See the preliminary address to the first volume of the society’s reports.

members of the other classes of society, would, if properly encouraged, generate among the poor of the same nation, that degree of industry and prudence, which we have in vain endeavoured to produce by compulsion.

I am very far from meaning to suggest upon this subject, that *nothing* is at present done, or that *all* is practicable. Much, I am convinced, has been *recently* done; and with such effect in exciting industry, as affords incontrovertible evidence of its utility.—*All*, I am satisfied, cannot be completely effected; but that, until the corruption of our nature is done away, there will ever be unhappy persons of every rank and order, and in every class of society, suffering under the consequences of an erroneous course of life, and placed as *landmarks* to direct the conduct of others.—In fact, in this and in every important undertaking, there is danger from the expectation of too great, or of too rapid a progress. He, who advances gently and gradually, and with caution, may have the hope of proceeding surely and success-

Caution  
against ex-  
pecting  
complete  
success.



fully; and if, in a work interesting to millions, only part of the object be attained, and every ill consequence avoided, the labour of the individuals employed will be well applied.

It is not at all essential to my purpose, that I should write a panegyric on the virtues of the poor. The contagion of bad example is generally caught by the lower from the higher orders; and I see no-

thing very exemplary in our own conduct, to induce me to doubt but that the poor are as good and as prudent, and as industrious, as

The faults of the poor arise from a disadvantageous situation.

we should have been in the same circumstances, and under the same disadvantages. If this be conceded, the vices and faults of the poor must be deemed the vices and faults of an unfavourable situation, rather than of individual delinquency. Remove those disadvantages, and you add as much to moral character as to personal comfort.—

In the reports of the society, the rich and the benevolent will find subjects of experiment, methods of pro-

Use to which the

reports  
may be ap-  
plied.

cedure, and accounts of expence. In the various details they will meet with something or other, to put in action every valuable principle of the human mind. They will only have to employ their discretion, in proportioning the mode and extent of their operations to their means and circumstances. "Many benevolent minds (says an eminent \* Prelate) suffer "their excellent dispositions for doing good "to remain unemployed in the great ser- "vice of christian charity, not for want of "means, or of objects, but for want of know- "ing what good *may* be done within their "own sphere, and *how*."—To remove this difficulty, to supply the public with details on every subject respecting the poor, to suggest the mode of active and useful charity, which in its effects shall not contribute to the increase of idleness and vice,—these are,

\* The Bishop of Durham, in his visitation charge in 1797; of which it may be truly said, that it contains an exemplification of his own definition of genuine Christianity;—THE UNION OF PURE DEVOTION WITH UNIVERSAL BENEVOLENCE.



and I trust will continue to be, the objects of the society.

Upon the proposed subjects of inquiry some \* information has been already collected; and the society is much gratified to find that it is producing immediate and beneficial effects, not only in this, but in a neighbouring kingdom.†—As to *parish relief*, the fact is now pretty well ascertained, that the best and most economical application of the parochial funds, is that which tends to assist and

Result of inquiries;—  
as to parish relief.

\* It may not be improper to repeat in this place, that we do not presume that every statement in our reports is perfectly and minutely correct.—The public, however, may be assured, that, so far from any thing being intentionally misrepresented, no pains have been spared to ascertain the truth and correctness of every thing contained in the reports, and to make them deserving of general attention and confidence.

† See the account of the proceedings of the acting Governors of the House of Industry in Dublin: page 14; and also page 5 of the Appendix.—The great success which has attended their exertions, and the establishment at Cork of a SOCIETY FOR BETTERING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR, must give great pleasure to every friend of humanity and civil order.

encourage industry \* and good management among the poor, in their own cottages, in the care and conduct of their own families, and in placing out their children † at an early age in a course of employment; and that in those parishes, where the cottager has been supplied with a good cottage and garden, and the means of keeping his cow at a fair and moderate rent, the labourers are the steadiest and most orderly men, the poor's-rate ‡ is greatly reduced, and the value of landed estates much improved.

With regard to protecting the poor from imposition in the purchase of the necessary articles of life, it appears that, with very little cost or trouble, great assistance may be given to them; and that more may be done for *their real benefit* in this respect, at a very trivial

\* See the society's reports, No. 7, and 27; and the charge to overseers of the poor, No. 4 in the Appendix.

† In report No. 20 the reader will see how small is the expence, at which children may be apprenticed, or placed out in service.

‡ See Report, No. 17: see also No. 1.

expense, than by millions, either added to our poor's-rates, or dispensed in the present system of pecuniary charity:—that, in many parts of England, a weekly sale of coals \* in small quantities at prime cost, is a relief to the distress; and a preservative to the morals, of the poor; and that a supply of corn, potatoes, milk, cheese, bacon, and other necessary articles of food, to the labourer, at the wholesale price, whether by the farmer for whom he works, or from a *village shop* † set up by the land proprietor, produces a very great saving to the labourer, encourages him in habits of thrift and economy, and attaches him to his situation in life.

The poor have, in general, benefited by the means offered to them much more rapidly and effectually, than their most sanguine friends could have expected. All the prejudice against *soups* and novel cookery, has vanished, where-  
As to vil-  
lage kit-  
chens and  
soup shops.  
 ever the experiment ‡ has been fairly made.

\* See Report, No. 9.

† See the Reports, No. 2, 23 and 34.

‡ See the Reports, No. 10, 18, 28, 30, 33, and 39:

Upon this subject, and that of village kitchens, a variety of information is submitted to the reader, respecting the village dinners prepared for children and others at Oakham\* and Epping; and the several charities recently established, for supplying the poor with soups and other different articles of food, in villages,—in London,—at country mansions,—and in manufacturing towns.—It is no small recommendation of these charities, that they tend to shew the poor their real interest, and to instruct them in preparing for themselves a more nourishing and more economical diet, than what they at present possess. They also give a fourfold effect to the operation of charity. In villages, they send comfortable and necessary relief into the houses of many aged and forlorn persons. In London, they supply food to a variety of those objects, which the circumstances of such a city, the corruption of

see also No. 25, and a note at the end of No. 23, shewing the great benefit of rice to a cottager; especially where he can get skim-milk.

\* See the Reports, No. 4, and No. 33.

human nature, and the vicissitudes of things, too abundantly produce in a great metropolis. In country mansions,\* at a very trifling expence, they extend relief to a wide circle around; and draw blessings and affection on the proprietor and his family. But their influence is most beneficial among manufactories; in which the contests of nations, the mutability of fashion, and the ebb and flow of prosperity, do perpetually produce objects of distress, beyond any power of adequate parochial relief. The value of these charities can only be appreciated by those who have attended the conduct of them. During the preceding winter above five thousand manufacturers in London, and almost as many more at Birmingham, distressed by the pressure of the times, have gratefully received from these soup-shops, their daily supply of food† for themselves and their families, at a fourth of what it must otherwise have cost them; and have

\* See 2d note to Report, No. 18.

† See Reports, No. 30, and No. 39.



been thereby preserved from want and despair.

It has been too clearly proved, that by the conversion of many *corn mills* into mills for manufactories, and by other circumstances, the cottager has been subjected to a grievous monopoly in respect of bread, which is now become his prime necessary of life. The injury to the poor by this alone (if we may estimate from the\* facts which have come before us) is nearly equal to two-thirds of all the poor's-rates collected in England, and considerably exceeds A MIL-  
LION a year. There is no doubt but the establishment of parochial + mills, throughout the kingdom, would at once correct this monstrous and abominable evil, without any loss of income to the proprietors of the mills; which will afford five per cent. on the expenditure, and leave an annual surplus for charity to distribute, in the encouragement and support of the industrious poor.

Of *friendly societies* the benefit is well

\* See Report, No. 34.

† See Report, No. 8.

known; and it is enough to state what general experience gives testimony to, and what is confirmed by all the information which has been laid before the society,\* that their effects, when legally and properly established, are sure and unvaried in promoting industry, economy, philanthropy, and every virtue, among the poor.

As to friendly societies.

As to *cottages*, with exception of some favoured districts, it is too obvious that they are deficient both in number and condition;† the inhabitants suffering in health and cleanliness, for want of that accommodation, which in this climate is necessary to life and well being. It is due to the cottager, to ourselves, and to the general appearance of the country, that neatness and comfort in these habitations (by timely repairs, and by the very trivial expence of frequent white-washing‡) should be allowed

As to cottages.

\* See Report, No. 1, and also No. 36.

† See No. 2. and 3, of the Appendix to the first volume.

‡ In addition to the observations on whitewashing poorhouses and cottages, in the Report No. 15. I men-



to have their full effect in inducing habits of cleanliness, and, in the consequence, of regularity and morality in the possessors.

Of *parish workhouses* it is not too much to say that, however well managed, yet if they are made the common receptacle of all who apply for relief, they will, in their general effect, be the cause of injustice\* and unkindness to many individuals, and of prejudice and injury to the parish. If none were placed there but the aged and infirm, who have no domestic retreat to recur to,—none, who could do better out of them, (the disabled cottager receiving relief in his cottage, the sturdy idler being subjected to legal correction, and

tion, on the suggestion of my friend Count Rumford, the whitewashing with *quick* lime, and *frequently*, the floors as well as the sides and ceilings of rooms. This, with a degree of expence too trivial to be any object of consideration, will keep the floors much longer clean, and will be a complete preventative against vermin. The lime should be mixed with boiling water, and applied quite hot. See Report, No. 13, as to the use of quick lime in fever wards.

\* See Report, No. 3.

and the child finding an asylum in a parish school,\*) the poor who, for want of domestic connection and the means of sustenance, are compelled to take refuge in a poorhouse, would find it a decent and well regulated † asylum; while the cottager would preserve his little establishment at home, and not be compelled by *temporary* ‡ distress, to become a *permanent* burthen to his parish; the idle and the sturdy would receive merited punishment; the parish-child would be boarded and instructed at less expence by some cottager's widow, from whose care he would go, at an earlier age, and with more character and principle, into service.

There are several other subjects of inquiry,

\* See Reports, No. 35 and 37.

† The account of Boldre Workhouse (No. 32.), and of the Industry School at Lewisham (No. 29.) will leave no doubt on the reader's mind, that much may be done, and without difficulty, in the reduction of parish rates, and in the increase of the comfort, and of the moral and religious habits, of the poor.

‡ How much may be done for the poor, in prevention of temporary distress by sickness, and with how little trouble or expence, the reader will find stated in the Reports, No. 13 and 38.

As to county jails. upon which I must refer the reader to the Reports themselves.

On one only I shall trouble him with any further remarks; and that is upon *county jails* and houses of correction.—The plan which has been successfully adopted at Dorchester, and in a very few other instances,—that of encouragement and inducement to work, by a liberal share of earnings, and by a distinction of food and treatment between the idle and industrious, and between the profligate and the well-disposed; the plan of sending them forth from the prison with character, and the means and habits of industry and livelihood, is fully developed in the account \* of the Dorchester jail and house of correction. The detail of the effects produced there, is confirmed by experience in every other instance, to which it has been properly applied. It is congenial to the nature of man, and to our own feelings. Let us not then despair, but that the example will be speedily followed in other counties, for the benefit of the inhabitants,

\* See Report, No. 5,

and for the reform and restoration of many wretched and hopeless prisoners, now suffering under the servitude of vicious habits, without the means or prospect of release.

In almost every establishment for the employment and benefit of the poor, Of finding  
employ-  
ment for  
the poor. the finding and keeping for them regular and proper work and occupation, is one of the greatest embarrassments.\* This, more than any other cause, has checked the exertions of those, who have been *at times* very anxious to promote the welfare of their poor neighbours. But, before they give up their labour of love, I entreat them to reflect, that, if the obtaining for a few necessitous families, who dwell near them, a regular supply of useful occupation, is difficult for the rich, and for those who possess talents, and leisure, and influence, what must be the nature of the difficulties which will attend the industrious efforts of

\* In the account of the school at Bamburg (No. 37.) the reader will find some useful information with regard to the mode of supplying work for country schools.

the poor, the helpless, the ignorant, and the uninstructed. If *we* are imposed upon, and placed in a situation of embarrassment, when we seek the means of industry for them, what must be *their* distress and confusion in the same attempt. — Surely this consideration should rouse us to overcome, by activity and perseverance, that which to them may be insurmountable; and to provide those means of industry and thrift, which, in the present state of this country, it is impossible for many of the poor to obtain for themselves.

The question whether the rich support the poor, or the poor the rich, has been frequently agitated by those, who are not aware that, while each does his duty in his station, each is, reciprocally, a support and a blessing to the other. All are parts of one harmonious whole; every part contributing to the general mass of happiness, if man would but endeavour to repay his debt of gratitude to his Creator; and, by a willing habit of usefulness, to promote the happiness of himself and of his fellow-creatures. In this

General  
question be-  
tween the  
rich and  
the poor.



way the higher classes of society may, by superiority of power and education, do more service to the other parts of the community, than what they receive; the welfare of the poor being then, in truth, more promoted and assured by the gradations of wealth and rank, than it ever could have been by a perfect equality of condition; even if that equality had not been in its nature chimerical and impracticable; or (if practicable) had not been hostile and fatal to the industry and energy of mankind.—Rank, power, wealth, influence, constitute no exemption from activity or attention to duty; but lay a weight of real, accumulated\* responsibility on the possessor.—If the poor are *idle* and *vicious*, they are reduced to subsist on the benevolence of the rich: and if the rich (I except those to whom health and

- \* Is heaven tremendous in its frowns? most sure :  
And, in its favours, formidable too.  
Its favours here are trials, not rewards ;  
A *call to duty*,—no discharge from care ;  
And should alarm us full as much as woes.

YOUNG.



ability, and not the will is wanting) are *selfish, indolent, and* NEGLECTFUL OF THE CONDITIONS ON WHICH THEY HOLD SUPERIORITY OF RANK AND FORTUNE, they sink into a situation worse than that of being *gratuitously maintained by the poor*. They become PAUPERS of an elevated and distinguished class; in no way personally contributing to the general stock, but subsisting upon the labour of the industrious cottager;—and whenever Providence thinks fit to remove such a character, whether in *high* or in *low* life, whether *rich* or *poor*, the community is relieved from an useless burthen.

If there should be among my readers, any one whose views are directed to himself only, I could easily satisfy him, that his means of self-indulgence would be increased, his repose would be more tranquil, his waking hours less languid, his estate improved, its advantages augmented, and the enjoyment permanently secured, by his activity in the melioration of the condition, the morals, the

Motives for  
co-operation.

religion, and the attachment, of a numerous and very useful part of his fellow-subjects.—To the patriot, who wishes to deserve well of his country, I could prove that, from the increase of the resources and virtues of the poor, the kingdom would derive prosperity,—the different classes of society, union—and the constitution, stability.—To the rich, who have leisure, and have unsuccessfully attempted to fill up their time with other objects, I could offer a permanent source of amusement;—that of encouraging the virtues and industry of the poor, with whom by property, residence, or occupation, they are connected;—that of adorning the skirts of their parks and paddocks, of their farms and commons, with picturesque and habitable cottages, and fruitful gardens; so as to increase every Englishman's affection for an island replete with beauty and happiness;—that of assisting the poor in the means of life, and in placing out their children in the world; so as to attach them by an indissoluble tie, and by a common interest, to their country, not

only as the sanctuary of liberty, but as an asylum, where happiness and domestic comforts are diffused, with a liberal and equal hand, through every class of society.

THOMAS BERNARD.

2d Nov. 1798.

## No. XL.

*Extract from an account of the management of the poor at Hamburgh. By the BISHOP OF DURHAM.*

IN the beginning of the year 1788, an institution was formed for the poor at Hamburgh. Of 110,000\* inhabitants in Hamburgh there were above 7000 distressed persons in want of regular relief, besides an average of 2500 in the hospitals. —There were peculiar circumstances attending this great and commercial city, which contributed to increase the number of poor, requiring assistance ;—severe winters, heavy taxes on the necessities of life, fluctuation of trade, the attraction of the poor from neighbouring countries in expectation of employment ; and a great number of female servants at very low wages, of whom many must necessarily remain unprovided for, when age or sickness should unfit them for active service.

As soon as the outline of the plan was agreed upon, an arrangement was formed, that such revenues as till then had been expended in alms by the

\* This account is extracted from an excellent publication on the subject by Mr. Voght, published in 1796, by Kay, No. 332, Strand ; and from the twenty-third report of the directors, published in German at Hamburgh in January, in 1798. The first is earnestly recommended to the attention of those, who interest themselves in the welfare of the poor: the latter, it is hoped, the society will be able to get translated, and published for the perusal of the English reader.

several churchwardens, and those the administration whereof had been connected with the workhouse, should be united under one administration with the monies to be collected from private benevolence. The most respectable inhabitants went round personally to collect subscriptions; and the town was divided into 60 districts, each being allotted to the care of 3 overseers; and the whole being under the direction of a board, or committee of 15 directors, elected from among the overseers.

The general object was to provide comfort and subsistence for the aged, and for those afflicted with incurable disease, or labouring under temporary sickness; to supply the means of occupation for those who could work; and, by giving education and employment to children, to afford the most beneficial relief to those burthened with large families.

For the reception of the aged, a public building, or asylum, was provided; but in cases where they had friends, who would receive them, they were allowed as much as their expence in the asylum would have amounted to. For the sick, and particularly for women at a period when they have the greatest need of charitable relief, medical assistance was provided. For the different districts in the town there were appointed 5 physicians, 5 surgeons, and 5 midwives, who upon notice were to attend the lodging of the patient, if not capable of going abroad. Food and medicine were immediately supplied, with so much attention and economy, that, in the course of the three first years, 12969 poor persons had been attended in sickness,

whose cure (including broth and an occasional supply of other food) had not cost more, upon an average, than 3s. 6d. each.

For a provision for the children of the poor, where, from the vice or the decease of a parent, no suitable home remained for the child, they boarded them in the houses of the better sort of poor. In other cases they allow the mother \* a weekly sum for the younger children. They also prepared a warm room in every parish, and bread, milk, and potatoes in plenty; so that parents, who went out to work, might leave their young children there during the day, and thus prevent any obstacle to their own industry, or to that of their elder children. At the same time they came to a determination "that no family should be allowed any relief "for any child above six years of age; but that

\* Mr. Voght's observations on the removal of children from their parents are feeling, and judicious.—"We were "averse (says he) to place the children in a general hospital, and the poor mothers would have been still more so. "—May all the favourers of those houses, such as they are, "seriously reflect whether the advantages they offer, can "compensate for the education of the heart, which nature "yields in those huts of poverty, where both parties become so necessary to each other; and where heroic exertions of parental and filial piety are not seldom become "habitual. Would the humane and philosophical observer "look through the rags of pale misery; calculate the sacrifices daily made there in many families, and amongst "neighbours; and enjoy the rapture with which a mother "embraces her son, whom she sees eagerly devour *the crumb of bread that she had refused to her own wants*,—the "annals of the poor might reconcile him to human nature, "when disgusted with the list of crimes which blacken the "page of history."



“such child, being sent to school\* should receive  
“not only payment for its work, but also an al-  
“lowance in the compound ratio of attendance at  
“school, good behaviour, and application to work.”

For the instruction of the children, three sorts of schools were opened :—the first for those who had no other employment ; these were schools of occupation as well as instruction : the second, evening schools for the education of children who worked with their parents during the day ;—the third were Sunday schools, which continued alike open to all, as well to those who had gone into service in Hamburg, as to children on the school list. The average number in these schools were 600 ; the expence of them about £ 700. a year.

The most difficult part of the undertaking still remained : that of procuring regular and suitable employment for those who could work ; and of ascertaining who were, and who were not able. A resolution was adopted, “not to permit any one to  
“receive a shilling, which he would have been able  
“to have earned for himself ; and at the same time  
“to reduce the support of those, who required re-  
“lief, below the scale of what any industrious per-  
“son, in such circumstances, could earn.” Printed queries were sent to the poor, the answers to which

\* It should be observed that this was in a *town*, where children can attend school conveniently. In the country (I speak from observation) great prejudice, both to the health and to the morals of children, attends their being sent to and returning from a distant school, or manufactory, at early and late hours, and in all variety of weather and season.

were written on the blank column of the page, verified by the evidence of their neighbours, and by the personal attendance of the overseer, or (where the state of health was in question) of the physician. Many of the queries were calculated to ascertain the average earning of each member of the family: but in this respect the truth was, for some time, very difficult to be obtained; it being the interest of the party, to make his capacity for work appear less than it really was.

A manufactory for spinning flax existed at that time in Hamburgh. The proprietor gave it up to the institution, together with the stock, the teachers, and the experience of several years. As the poor who wanted relief, were chiefly women and children, this was adopted as their general work. The clean flax was sold to the women at a certain and low price; and the yarn which they spun, purchased of them at £30. per cent. above the usual rate. To whatever fineness the yarn was spun, the whole profit was recived by the poor. Every poor woman brought with her work a book, in which the pieces delivered in by her were noted; so that she thereby received a certificate of industry, and the institution had a regular account always before them of the employment of the poor. In the mean time, the men and larger boys (who were not the numerous or necessitous part of the poor) were employed in mending the roads, cleaning the streets, making rope yarn, and other labour, at a certain allowance per day.

After these general preparations were made, the

the committee conceived that they could now offer relief to all sorts of poor ; as they had the means of enforcing the only condition required ; that of their contributing towards their own support, the degree of exertion which they were capable of. The overseers therefore went through the streets, and made inquiries if any inhabitants were in need of relief. Those who applied, if capable of work, were supplied with employment ; if prevented by want of skill, they were admitted into a school opened for that purpose ; and in the course of three months were taught to spin ; being allowed for the first week a gratuity of two shillings, every week after two pence less ; and, in the twelfth week, dismissed with the donation of a pound of flax, and a spinning wheel.

The quantity of work, which the disabled poor were capable of, was easily and accurately ascertained by a week's trial at the spinning school. The result was produced weekly before a sub-committee ; and the sum that each poor person could earn, was entered in a book ; from that time they were paid weekly, what their earnings fell short of 1s. 6d. a week,\* whenever it appeared by their book, that they had earned to the known extent of their abilities.

In the proportion of two shillings a week, an allowance was made for their lodging. But as this is paid every six months, and the pauper's allowance is weekly, it was thought proper (except in cases

\* It should be observed that the means of subsistence are much cheaper at Hamburgh than in London.

where the lodging was otherwise provided for) to retain four pence a week, for the purpose of paying the landlord's rent ; thereby keeping the poor out of debt, and giving them a more comfortable habitation, than what otherwise they could have expected.

Clothing and bedding were at first much wanted ; but in order to prevent their being pawned or sold, it was thought proper to mark them as the property of the institution, which the pauper was to keep while he behaved well. The committee purchased the materials by wholesale, and employed some of the poor in making them up. They were delivered to the pauper on the recommendation of the overseer, countersigned by the director of the district ; or to children, upon the recommendation of the sub-committee of the schools.

A complete list of the poor being at length obtained, public notice was given, in the month of October, 1788, that no deserving poor person could or would, in future, remain unnoticed. Instructions were very generally distributed among the poor, as to the mode of obtaining relief ; and the public was intreated to inform the committee, if any pauper had not been duly attended to.—No such case has hitherto occurred.

It was established as a general rule, that three years residence in Hamburg should entitle the party to relief ; allowance being also made for accidents, illness, or child-bed ; which, in all cases, were held to be proper objects of charity. A place of reception was opened for foreign poor, where

they were taken care of for three days, and then discharged with the means of subsistence home. At the same time, in order to prevent the further influx of other poor, it was prohibited to receive any stranger, without informing the magistrate or overseer, under pain of bearing all the expence of supporting such stranger, if he should become an object of charity within three years.

These general regulations have been strictly adhered to for ten years ; except in the cases of poor persons being ill, when they have sick tickets given them, which exempt them from the general rules ; and during the most severe winter weeks, when a regular increase of allowance is ordered by the committee. But no inequality of distribution is ever admitted, whatever may have been the prior situation of the party. Those who had formerly been in a more respectable situation, continued to be the proper objects of private benevolence ; of which no public institution ought to supersede the exertions.

The conduct of the institution is in the general committee, consisting of 15 directors. They appoint 4 sub-committees from among themselves ; one for manufactures, another for the schools, a third for clothing, and a fourth for the police of the poor. The sub-committees have each their separate officers, and keep distinct accounts, which are given in every month to the treasurer and the board.

Ten of the directors are selected ; each one of them superintending six of the sixty districts, to



receive from the overseers accounts of what is wanted in the respective districts for fixed support, for occasional relief, for accidents, and for discretionary assistance; which, when certified by the director of the district, is sent for payment to the treasurer; whose accounts are laid every month before the committee, and checked by the director's certificate. These ten directors may be considered as "the advocates for the institution," to prevent, in their several districts, excess of expence.

From the inquiries made at the commencement of the institution, it appeared that there were more than 4000 women, 2000 children, and 1000 men, then in Hamburg in the utmost want\* of immediate relief. The whole number consisted of 7391 individuals, and composed 3903 families. The first clothing of so great a number of destitute persons, would have exceeded the powers of the institution, but for the quantity of ready-made shirts

\* The poor at Hamburg had been habituated to live almost entirely on a miserable bevegrage, which was called *coffe*, and sold in messes, with about half a pound of indifferent bread. This wretched substitute for food they took twice a day. About two years ago the directors introduced the use of Count Rumford's soups, with great benefit to the poor at Hamburg. It has been a saving of 9 parts in 16, or rather more than half the former expence of their food. Children in particular have derived great advantage in health and strength from the use of these soups.—The saving to the institution in respect of fuel, by the introduction of Count Rumford's boilers, is stated in the Report (which contains a great deal of minute and curious detail in respect to fuel as well as food) to have been rather more than 61 parts in 66; the cost of their fuel, which is very scarce at Hamburg, being at present not a tenth of what it was. Hamburg Report of Jan. 1793.



and other apparel, which the ladies supplied with a liberal hand. Clothing and schools for instruction are now wanted only for the children.

The purchase of spinning wheels, and of other instruments of employment, and the support of schools where 500 grown persons were at the same time instructed in spinning, added to the allowance made to the poor for the loss of time while they were learning to spin, occasioned a very enormous expence at the commencement of the institution. But this was not of long continuance. The schools for teaching spinning to grown persons soon became unnecessary ; 3354 spinning wheels had been given to those who had proved themselves able to spin. These were employed in spinning, when more lucrative employment was not to be found. 2000 poor, who at the time they entered the school could do nothing at all, have since earned from eight pence to twenty-pence a week, at times, and during hours, which were formerly entirely lost to them. The average of all expences attending the employment of the poor during three years, up to December, 1796, including the loss upon the sale of manufactured goods, has been only £611. per annum ; and, in the worst cases that have occurred, the expence of enabling a pauper to earn five guineas a year, has not been more than half a guinea.

It will not be a small recommendation to many persons, that since the year 1788, scarce a beggar has been seen at Hamburgh. But there is another much more important circumstance ; the decrease

of sickness and misery among the poor. The average mortality of the medical institution at Hamburgh, before 1788, had been above 1 in 10. In the year 1789 it was greatly reduced, and has since by a gradual progress diminished to less than 1 in 20.—This and the extension of the schools, and of the benefit of the medical institution to persons *not actually entitled to relief*, has greatly diminished, and must still have a much greater effect, in diminishing the list of distressed poor, and in increasing the number of industrious and thriving citizens at Hamburgh.

### OBSERVATIONS.

The division of *labour* has not produced more extraordinary effects in a well conducted manufactory, than than the division of *attention* in a well arranged institution. The giving to every acting member his peculiar and appropriate duty, not interfered in by any other person, as has been done with great effect at Hamburgh, is of the utmost importance in every establishment. Those who have attended much to the conduct of charities, must have had frequent occasion to regret, that, even among the best intentioned men, more time, and more power, is often wasted in the counteraction and controversion of petty and trivial measures, than in the furtherance of the real objects of the institution. This is the *friction*,—the impediment of action,—the obstruction to progress,—

which it is most essential to prevent ; and it is in this respect, that the benevolent and enlightened founders of the institution at Hamburgh, have been peeuiliarily judicious and successful.

The maxims adopted at Hamburgh in the execution of their plan, are very deserving of attention :—" That every allowance, which super-  
 " sedes the necessity of working, becomes a pre-  
 " mium to idleness :—that labour, not alms should  
 " be offered to all, who have any ability to work,  
 " however small that ability may be :—that one  
 " shilling, which the poor man earns, does him  
 " more real service than two which are given him :  
 " —that, if the manner in which relief is given is  
 " not a spur to industry, it becomes in effect a pre-  
 " mium to sloth and profligacy :—and that, if the  
 " mere support of a pauper is above what any in-  
 " dustrious person in the same circumstances could  
 " earn, idleness will become more profitable than  
 " industry, and *beggary* a better trade than the  
 " *workshop*."—In proportion as the conductors  
 of the institution at Hamburgh have rigidly ad-  
 hered to these maxims, they have found the benefit  
 extended and increased ; whenever they have re-  
 laxed, the *thermometer of industry* has been lower,  
 and less work has been done.

One great cause of the success of the institution at Hamburgh has been the *publicity* and *regularity* of the accounts. Without this all charities become jobs, the directors grow indifferent to public appro-  
 bation or censure, and the administration falls into

the hands of under officers, who soon learn so to entangle the business, that no subsequent director is ever able to unravel the clue.

That which has been done in Hamburgh, by the co-operation of its best and wisest citizens, has been effected at Munich by the abilities and perseverance of one individual.\* The particulars of that establishment are so well and so generally known, that it is unnecessary for me to enter into the detail of them. The institution has, in both instances, been

\* Count Rumford, has had the satisfaction of being very useful to the institution at Hamburgh.—The following extract is translated from the Hamburgh Report, of January, 1798.—“The military workhouse in Munich had the good fortune to remain several years under the immediate direction of its founder, **COUNT RUMFORD**; better known to philosophers under his former name, Sir Benjamin Thompson. He had found means to derive the most important advantages from the long known, and long neglected fact (of which, however, every baker avails himself), that meal exposed with water a certain time, in a certain degree of heat, attaches to itself a certain quantity of the water, so firmly that the water appears to be changed from a fluid to a solid state; and will actually support the heat of red hot iron without being separated from the meal: he united this fact with the new chemical discoveries, respecting the component parts of water; and applied the whole to a composition of cheap food, of which barley is the basis; which mixed with pease, potatoes and some other ingredients, and boiled very slowly, and for a long time, with a certain proportion of water, and then properly seasoned, and mixed with cut bread, to which may be occasionally added, a small quantity of various cheap articles, which give it a variety of rich and agreeable tastes, wholesome and savoury food may be prepared at a very moderate expence.—The deputation made several experiments in preparing this kind of food, which all succeeded; but they still found a want of Count Rumford’s boilers, in which the heat is so completely confined, that a very small quantity of fuel is found to be sufficient for cooking a very large quantity of

wisely adapted to the circumstances and condition of the respective places ; at Munich with additional power, from the establishment being blended with the government of the state, and producing an influence on the country, of which that city is the capital ; and from its being connected with a variety of useful and extraordinary inventions and improvements, which Count Rumford has made, and *is now making*, for the benefit of mankind.

29th Oct. 1798.

"food. The Count, to whom application was made on this occasion, very politely sent the deputation a complete model of an oblong boiler, on his best principles, with its fire place, dampers, &c. ; which being executed of the proper size, has been found to answer all that could be expected from it."—No less than sixteen copies of this model have already been made, and sent from Ham-  
burgh to different great towns and cities in Germany, Denmark, and Sweden.



## No. XLI.

*Extract from an account of a cottager's family at**Hasketon. By JOHN WAY, Esq.*

IN the year 1779, a tenant of mine, at Hasketon in the county of Suffolk, died, leaving a widow, and fourteen children, the eldest of which was a girl, under 14 years of age. He had held under me 14 acres of pasture land, in four inclosures, at a moderate rent of £ 13. a year; and had kept two cows, which, with a very little furniture and clothing, was all the property that devolved, upon his death, to his widow and children.

The parish of Hasketon is within the district of one of the incorporated houses of industry; one of the first that was erected in the kindom. The rule of the house is to receive all proper objects within the walls, but not to allow any thing for the relief of the out poor, except in cases which have a peculiar claim. The directors of the house of industry, upon being made acquainted with the situation of the family, immediately agreed to relieve the widow, by taking her seven youngest children into the house. This was proposed to her; but, with great agitation of mind, she refused to part with any of her children. She said, she would rather die in working to maintain them, or go herself with all of them into the house and there work for them, than either part with them all, or suffer any partiality to be shewn to any of them. She then declared that if I, her landlord, would continue



her in the farm, as she called it, she would undertake to maintain and bring up all her 14 children, without any parochial assistance.

She persisted in her resolution; and being a strong woman about 45 years old, I told her she should continue the tenant, and hold it the first year rent free. This she accepted with much thankfulness; and assured me, that she would manage for her family without any other assistance. At the same time, tho without her knowledge, I directed my receiver not to call upon her at all for her rent; conceiving that it would be a great thing, if she could support so large a family, even with that indulgence.

The result, however, was that with the benefit of her two cows, and of the land, she exerted herself so as to bring up all her children; 12 of whom she placed out in service, continuing to pay her rent regularly of her own accord to my receiver every year after the first.—She carried part of the milk of her two cows, together with the cream and butter, every day to sell at Woodbridge, a market town two miles off, and brought back bread and other necessaries; with which, and with her skim-milk, butter-milk, &c. she supported her family. The eldest girls took care of the rest while the mother was gone to Woodbridge; and by degrees, as they grew up, the children went into the service of the neighbouring farmers.

The widow at length came and informed me, that all her children, except the two youngest, were able to get their own living; and that she had taken

up the employment of a nurse; which was a less laborious situation, and at the same time would enable her to provide for the two remaining children, who indeed could now almost maintain themselves. She therefore gave up the land, expressing great gratitude for the enjoyment of it, which had afforded her the means of supporting her family, under a calamity, which must otherwise have driven both her and her children into a workhouse.

## OBSERVATIONS.

This is an extraordinary instance of what maternal affection, assisted by a little kindness and encouragement, will do. To separate the children of the poor from their parents, is equally impolitic\* and unkind. It destroys the energy of the parent, and the affections and principles of the child.—Man is a creature of wants. From them are derived all our exertions. On the necessity of the infant is founded the affection of the mother; and among the poor (I except those cases where parental affection may be chilled and enfeebled by extreme depression of circumstances)—but, generally, among the poor, where that necessity exists in the greatest force, natural affection is the strongest. Among the rich, children are too frequently the subject either of pride, or of penitence.

The supplying of cottagers with cows, and with the means of feeding them, will tend to diminish the calls for parochial relief; and to render unne-

\* See the Society's Report, No. 3; see also note in the Report No. 32; and the Appendix, No. 4.

cessary that barbarous system, of removing the child from its natural and most affectionate guardians.— The year's rent remitted, and the land confided to this poor widow, not only enabled her to support and educate her children at home, but was the means of saving the parish a very considerable expence; as the reception and feeding and clothing of the seven youngest children, at an expence of hardly less than seventy pounds a year, would probably have been followed by nearly an equal expence with the widow and the other children. Besides this, the encouragement of industry and good management among the poor in their cottages, and assisting them in their endeavours to thrive, will contribute to the increase of a hardy and industrious race of people; and will afford a supply to our markets of eggs, butter, poultry, pigs, garden stuff, and almost every article of life; tending to lower the price of provisions, to prevent monopoly, to enrich the country, and to make it powerful both in people and produce, to a degree beyond all calculation.

*6th Nov. 1798.*

## No. XLII.

*Extract from an account of a supply of flour to the poor by a friendly society at Rothley in Leicestershire. By THOMAS BABINGTON, Esq.*

IN 1795, when the extreme dearth of bread made all persons anxiously attend to every circumstance which contributed to enhance its price, a friendly society at Rothley, in Leicestershire, determined to employ £ 50. of their capital in purchasing corn, and to dispose of the flour obtained from it at a low price. Their chief object was to supply the members of the society with flour at prime cost. They proposed also to sell it to their neighbours at a price, which, tho considerably lower than that at which the article was retailed by the neighbouring millers and hucksters, might give them legal interest for their £ 50. and indemnify them for contingent expences and losses. In a short time, however, this distinction between members and other persons was thought invidious; and flour was sold by the stone to all who applied, on such terms as would barely reimburse the price of the corn and the expences, and afford interest for the £ 50.

It was their resolution to sell for ready money only; and they fixed on a part of every Monday, when two of their members were to attend at their club-room, and supply such purchasers as should apply there. They bought a quantity of corn with the assistance of a respectable farmer; and found

that they could sell the flour for, at least sixpence a stone (of 14 lb.) less than was charged for flour apparently of the same quality, by the neighbouring dealers. The saving to the purchasers was about £20. per cent. Flour continued to be sold to the amount of £10. or £12. every week, until after some months had elapsed, when the millers lowered the prices, and the sales decreased. From that time to the present, from £4. to £7. has been the amount of the weekly sum received at the sales.

When the plan of the society was first set on foot, they sold much more barley flour than wheat flour; but, as corn became cheaper, the poor returned by degrees to the use of wheat, to which most of them had been accustomed; and now the quantity of wheat flour disposed of is three-fourths, or four-fifths of the whole quantity sold. The wheat is ground into a sort of flour called "thirds," without any of the finer part of the flour being taken from it; and thus all the nutritious qualities of the grain are preserved. The bread made of this flour is very wholesome and palatable, and not so brown as that which is frequently eaten in farmers' houses. There is a very ready sale for the bran, which, in order to make the flour of the requisite quality, is separated at the mill from the gross produce of the wheat. The miller is not paid for grinding, by an allowance of toll, but in money; which is found to be by far the most eligible method of satisfying his demands. For some time flour has been sold on two days of the week, for the better accommodation of the poor.



The foregoing plan has effectually answered the purpose of keeping the price of flour as low as that of corn would admit ; and, in some degree, of improving the quality of the flour sold in the neighbourhood, by affording the poor a certainty of buying it in its purest state of the friendly society.

### OBSERVATIONS.

Every thing that contributes to supply the poor with genuine flour, at a fair price, is of very great importance ; otherwise the greater part of the poor will be compelled to apply to the mealman, the huckster, or the baker, for the chief article of their food ; and, in general, to pay from £ 15. to £ 25. per cent., probably upon an average £ 20. per cent., more than the original cost of the flour. The mode adopted at Rothley, is such as would be imitable in almost every part of the kingdom ; and it has the merit of putting into the hands of the suffering individuals, their own remedy against the monopoly of the millers.—It is to be observed, that the power of purchasing corn is by no means so clear and decisive a benefit to the poor, as that purchasing flour at prime cost.

The benefit of the plan adopted at Rothley is so evident, the mode of process so simple, and the amount of expence so easily ascertained, that arguments in its favour are unnecessary. It may however be of use to suggest some cautions, grounded on circumstances which have happened at Rothley, as to the mode of executing such a plan.—1st. It is material that the price should



be such as will allow at least in some degree for the risk of the speculation. An unexpected loss has happened at Rothley by a sudden fall in the price of wheat, and by the destruction of some corn in a windmill.—2dly. The society should be prepared for the effects of a competition, on the part of the neighbouring millers. A reduction in their price of flour, bringing it nearly if not quite to a level with the price of the society, will assuredly take place. This, tho in fact one of the very beneficial consequences of such a measure, will lessen the custom of the society for a time, while it affords incontrovertible evidence of the utility of the plan, and of the service which it has done the neighbourhood.—3dly. The accounts, in this and in all other matters of buying and selling, should be very correctly kept. If this is not done, every such undertaking will in the end be a losing trade.—4thly, It is essential, that the resolution of selling for ready money only, should be punctiliously adhered to: otherwise the society will hold out a most pernicious temptation to the poor to run in debt, and will involve itself in the risk of being induced to give them still more credit, in order to obtain payment of their existing debts. Besides, where a society is numerous, and consists of manufacturers, artizans, and day labourers, there is no possibility of ascertaining the line to be adhered to, when the rule has been once broken. Each individual will vote that his neighbour should have the same, or a greater indulgence, than the person who preceded him. Thus all the distinctions, usually

made by private shopkeepers in giving credit, will be disregarded, and ruin must ensue. In cases of private trade, credit is given for the purpose of obtaining custom: but when public benefit is the sole object of a society, they may disregard the little arts of the shopkeeper; and proceed inflexibly upon that plan, which is most beneficial to the individual, and to the public.

Similar modes of procuring a regular supply of flour, at a moderate price, have been adopted at Quorndon, Sileby, Mountsorrell, and some other places in Leicestershire; recommended by the same benefits, as those attending the execution of the plan at Rothley.

25th Oct. 1798.

## No. XLIII.

*Extract from an account of rewards given by a society near Dublin, for encouraging industry and good habits among the poor. By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.*

AT a quarterly meeting of the farmers' society\* for the district of Castleknock, Blancherstown, and Porterstown, near Dublin, held in March, 1798, the following premiums were offered to labourers and their families within the district.

*Premiums proposed by the Farmers' Society for the Union of Castleknock, for the year 1798.*

	£.	s.	d.
1. To the best ploughman with oxen	2	2	0
2. To ditto, with horses - -	2	2	0

*The qualifications necessary to gain the above premiums, to be settled by a committee appointed for that purpose.*

3. To the labourer who shall appear to have brought up the greatest number of legitimate children in the habits of industry to the age of twelve years -	2	2	0
4. To the labourer, for the next greatest number - - -	1	11	6

\* This society was established by Mr. Secretary Pelham, whose villa is within the district; the premiums were proposed at a meeting held at the house of the Reverend Dr. O'Connor, the minister of the parish, and voted with great willingness and readiness on the part of gentlemen and the farmers.—I have altered the sums from Irish to English currency for the convenience of the English reader.

5. To the labourer, for the third greatest number - - - £. s. d.  
1 1 0

6. To the labourer in farming, who shall have lived the greatest number of years (not less than five) in the same service, and behaved with sobriety, honesty, and industry, during that time, and who shall produce a satisfactory certificate from his master, of such continued good behaviour - - - 2 2 0

7. To the dairy-maid, who shall have lived the greatest number of years under the above conditions - - - 1 1 0

8. To the wife or widow of a labourer or manufacturer, who shall have done the greatest number of days' work in husbandry - - - 1 1 0

9. To ditto, for the next greatest number 0 10 6

*The above Premiums not to exceed 3d. a day for the first, nor 2d. a day for the second.*

10. To six labourers, who shall obtain from their respective clergymen and employers, certificates of their being most attentive to religious duties, the most sober, honest, and industrious, and in every respect the best conducted labourers within the union - - - 3 3 0

11. To six boys and six girls, who shall be returned from the school of Castleknock, Blancherstown, and Porterstown, as being the most attentive to learning,

and the best behaved children of said schools      -      -      -      £. s. d.  
3   3   0

*The certificates to be signed by the masters, and countersigned by their respective clergymen; these premiums to be given in books or clothes.*

12. Resolved, that we will every year give the sum of one guinea, to purchase useful tracts for each of the three schools in the union      -      -      -      3   3   0

*The tracts to be chosen by a committee appointed for the purpose: an examination to be held, and premiums given to such of the scholars as shall give the best account of said tracts.*

13. To three boys and three girls, under the age of twelve years, who shall appear to the society by certificates from their employers, to have earned the most money in the year in country business      -      3   3   0

14. To the same number of boys and girls, from twelve to sixteen years old, under the same conditions      -      -      3   3   0

*The first premium not to exceed 2d. nor the other 3d. per day.*

15. To three labourers, or widows of labourers, who shall be returned, by inspectors appointed for the purpose, as having kept their children, cabbins, and gardens, in the neatest, cleanliest, and most decent order (gentlemen's lodge excepted), one guinea for each division of the union      -      -      -      3   3   0

16. To the wife or widow of a labourer, who shall (with the assistance of her chil-

dren, under the age of sixteen years) have spun the greatest quantity of linen or woollen yarn, and prepared the same for the loom, within the year - - - £. s. d.

17. To ditto, for the next greatest quantity - - - - - 1 1 0

18. To ditto, for the third greatest quantity - - - - - 0 15 0

19. To the wife or widow of a labourer, who with the assistance of her children under sixteen years of age, shall have knit the greatest number of pairs of stockings within the year - - - 1 1

20. To ditto, for the next greatest number - - - - - 0 15 0

21. To ditto for the third greatest number - - - - - 0 10 6

*The quantity of yarn, and number of pairs of stockings to be certified on oath.*

22. To three labourers, who shall be returned by judges appointed for the purpose, as being the most expert and handy in the different works of husbandry, viz. ditching, draining, thatching, plashing hedges, &c. (ploughing excepted) - 3 3 0

Total of premiums £. 40 7 0

*The premiums for ploughing, ditching, draining, and for handy labourers, &c. to be determined by a committee appointed for that purpose.*

Premiums No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 22, to be determined the last Monday in June, 1798: all claims for said premiums to be sent in to the secretary, on or before the 11th of June,



1798. The other premiums require a year for their determination; which year begins the 1st of April, 1798, and ends the 1st of April, 1799. All claims for said premiums to be sent in to the secretary, on or before the 1st of April, 1799, and to be determined at the quarterly meeting of the society, on the last Monday in June following.

*The ploughing match to be held in a field of Mr. Troy's at Porterstown, on the 25th of June, 1798. All claimants for the ploughing premiums, are requested to send their names, and number of ploughs they intend to send, to the secretary, three days before the trial.*

Alexander Kirkpatrick, Esq. Treasurer.

Matthew Weld, Esq. Secretary.

### OBSERVATIONS.

The beneficial tendency of the measures adopted by this society, for encouraging the virtues of the poor, is so obvious, and the expediency and utility of them so apparent, that it is difficult to suggest any observation on the subject, which the good sense and intelligence of the reader will not have already anticipated. It will have occurred to him before I can claim the merit of the remark, that no accumulation of criminal law, no penalties on imprudence and idleness, no repairs of the stocks and the cage, no additions to our jails and houses or correction,—in short, no severity of punishment, tho it may in some degree deter from crimes, can ever produce among the great mass of the people, any increase of energy and good habits, which will bear a comparison with that, which must necessarily spring from the judicious and benevolent

encouragement, afforded to their poor neighbours, in this instance, by the Irish gentlemen and farmers.

There is so little trouble, expence, or difficulty in the measure, that I do not intreat, but I venture to call upon the inhabitants of our different parishes and districts, as they regard either their own interest or the welfare of others, to imitate this useful example ; and generally to adopt a plan, the good effects of which must be unquestionable. There are several societies in England, which have done very essential service to their neighbourhoods, by embracing part of these objects : but the framer of these resolution has contrived, in this instance, to awaken at once *all orders and all ages* of the labouring poor in his neighbourhood ; and, by the kindest and most acceptable incitement to action, to stimulate them *all* to progress and perseverance in those courses of life, which will prove most useful and most beneficial to themselves and their country.

19th Nov. 1798.

## No. XLIV.

*Extract from an account of the asylum (or school of instruction) for the blind at Liverpool. By*  
THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.

IN December, 1790, an asylum was established at Liverpool, for the benefit of the indigent blind. It was set on foot by some of the most respectable inhabitants; not for the town merely, but open to every part of the world.—To render the blind happy in themselves, and *useful* to society, is the benevolent and excellent plan of this institution; which may be more correctly termed, a SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION FOR THE BLIND: where they who have been taught a trade, withdraw after 2, 3, or 4 years, to make way for others; and thus, by a continual succession, the benefit is very extensively diffused.

This charity does not separate the poor from their families, and destroy the dearest and most tender connections; but (leaving those ties undissolved, which to persons deprived of sight are most essential, and without which, indeed, life is hardly worth retaining) affords to the indigent blind the means of instruction, the materials for industry, and the wages of labour. They have comfortable working rooms provided for them, where they are instructed and employed about 8 hours a day, and receive a pecuniary compensation according to their ability and industry. They continue to lodge and

board with their friends, or at lodgings provided for them, and attend only as *day scholars* in the house. The number of blind persons instructed and employed in the asylum during the 2 first years, ending in January, 1793, was from 25 to 45: of these, some had already learnt their trades, and had returned home to enjoy the benefit of what they had been taught; a very few, already too much habituated to idleness, had returned to their former way of life; but the greater number still remained on the establishment, in a course of improvement and occupation.

In January, 1794, the committee gave notice, that twenty more blind persons would be admitted; the circumstances of each case being first ascertained by answers to printed queries, which were to be had at the asylum. As queries similar to these would be very useful in almost all charities, I have inserted them in a note.\*—During their continuance

\* *QUERIES, to be answered by a Medical Gentleman.*

What is the nature and supposed cause of the applicant's blindness?

Is it total?

Is it deemed incurable?

*QUERIES, to be answered by a Clergyman.*

What is the name of the blind person?

What the age?

How long has he or she been blind?

What is the place or parish where the party was born?

To what place or parish does the party now belong?

What is the party's present place of residence?

How long has he or she resided there?

Has the person ever followed any trade, occupation, or employment, and what?

How is the person at present supported?

in the school, each person is allowed towards his or her support a sum not less then 18 pence, nor more than 5s. weekly; except in some extraordinary cases, or in those of married persons, who receive an additional allowance of six pence a week.

Of the blind in the asylum, six are instructed in music, to qualify them as organists of parish churches. When any of the female musical pupils are also employed in the other trades of the asylum, they have an extra weekly allowance on that account. Blind persons, who have already made some progress on the harpsichord, are admissible, and allowed to continue to perfect themselves; and, in case of any one of the musical pupils having behaved well in the asylum, and appearing to be properly qualified on quitting it, the committee has the power to purchase and present such pupil with a musical instrument.\*—The age of admission for

Is the party married?

If married, what is his or her family?

Hath the party any estate, annuity, salary, pension, or income, for life, or otherwise; and what is the amount thereof?

If any, how doth it arise?

Did the party ever receive alms or relief from any parish as a pauper; and if any, from what place or parish;

Are the blind person's parents living or dead?

If living, what are their names, residence, and condition or circumstances, and also what family have they?

Has the blind person been a common beggar, wandering minstrel, or played upon any instrument at alehouses within two years before application for admission; such persons being entirely excluded?

Does the party bear a character of regularity, decency, and sobriety?

\* Tho only a few are *regularly* instructed in music, yet all of them are taught to join in the hymns and songs for



males is from 14 years to 45, and for females from from 12 to 45 years ; except in the case of the musical pupils, who, if of promising genius, are admitted at as early an age as eight years ; or, if already partly instructed, may be received after the age of 45.

This charity, tho established for the indigent, does not exclude those in better circumstances from receiving instruction, on terms extremely advantageous to them.—It must not be expected that in any institution of this nature, the profits arising from the labours of the blind, can greatly contribute towards the expence of the establishment. Allowance must be made for the unavoidable waste of

the blind at the asylum ; and several are engaged to sing at different churches in the town. One of their hymns, by the Rev. Mr. John Smyth of Liverpool, is beautiful and interesting.

Hark! sisters, hark! that bursting sigh!  
It issued from some feeling heart;—  
Some pitying stranger sure is nigh;—  
Tell us, oh! tell us who thou art.

Sad is the lot the sightless know;  
We feel, indeed, but ne'er complain  
Here gentle toils relieve our woe—  
Hark! hark! that piteous sigh again:

If breath'd for us those heaving sighs,  
May heaven, kind stranger, pity thee!  
If starting tears suffuse thine eyes,  
Those tears, alas! we cannot see,

But ev'ry sigh, and ev'ry tear,  
And ev'ry boon thy hand has giv'n,  
All in full lustre shall appear,  
Recorded in the book of heaven.

materials at first, in every kind of article which the blind are taught to manufacture, as well as for the wages of teachers and attendants, and for the unproductive employment of the musical pupils. Besides this, it is to be considered, that as soon as their labor comes into profit, they are, and very properly, desirous of returning to their homes, to enjoy the benefit of the instruction, which they have received. The great and proper object of such a charity is, not the magnitude of the profit by work, but the number of helpless persons rendered capable of maintaining themselves, and of filling up their time with utility and satisfaction.

The women are employed in spinning yarn for window cords, for sail cloth, and for linen cloth. The men, in making baskets, lobby cloths (a coarse kind of carpeting for passages), bears (a species of door mat), whips, and clock and window cords. Of those manufactures, whips\* appear to have been the most productive article. The making of baskets, tho perhaps less profitable, is more useful for the blind; as they are easily taught, in the course of a short time, to make good baskets and hampers; and may then return to their friends, and nearly, if not entirely, maintain themselves by following their employment at home. Their average receipt from the sale of the different articles manufactured in the house, has been, for the 4 preceding years, rather more than £ 500 a year. As a know-

\* The manufacture of whips is since discontinued. 5 Jan. 1799.

ledged of the particulars of the different articles, may assist persons engaged in forming similar establishments, I have prepared a statement of them for 4 years last past, from the annual accounts of the asylum.—It is as follows :

	1794.			1795.			1796.			1797.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Whips -	128	12	0	281	1	10	63	10	4	92	16	10
Whiterope bears	14	18	11½	16	17	10	12	19	7	2	5	0
Tarred bears	61	1	7	58	4	1	62	6	1	62	18	11½
Baskets, Hampers, &c.	24	6	5½	11	11	0	53	9	8	79	13	11½
Points, Gaskets, &c.	6	14	8½	12	7	5½	32	17	0	64	13	9
Sheeting -	36	4	7	37	19	8½	49	14	0	77	15	2½
Huckabac -	17	10	5	10	1	5½	11	15	11½	27	18	8½
Untarred lobby cloths -	42	16	4	47	0	5½	55	5	8	29	10	10
Tarred do. -	15	16	1	23	19	11	49	2	3	79	14	2
Oakum -	8	1	8½	9	15	1	4	8	1	7	15	5
Yarn -	38	9	6	41	7	11½	51	9	3	0	0	0
Windowsash and curtain line	19	12	2	28	1	2½	38	14	10	38	12	6
Worsted mats	0	0	0	5	17	0	1	14	6	1	1	0
	£414	4	6	584	5	0	487	7	2½	564	16	4

Under so deplorable a calamity as the loss of sight, especially with the habitual idleness that attends a youth and middle age without instruction, and without the means or power of occupation, a great degree of successful industry and exertion can hardly be expected.—The benefits of the institution have been received with eagerness and gratitude. Of those admitted into the asylum, there are very few who have not fully answered the benevolent wishes of the conductors. Only 3

have proved incapable of learning; 2 have been dismissed for misconduct, and 1 has returned to his trade of begging. There are 10, who had been strolling fiddlers, and have since learnt a trade in the school; but who have nevertheless resumed their former occupation:—and who can wonder at their recurring to an art, which habit and want of sight must have made pleasant, and almost necessary to them; when he considers how great is the blank in the mind of a blind person, and how much of that may be filled up by their own music; tho sometimes with less delight to their hearers, than to themselves? They have, however, the benefit of having learnt a trade, whereby in future they may add to their other means of support.—Of the rest there were, at the commencement of this year, 49 persons doing well in the house. There is one who is gone out organist of the church of Halsall near Ormskirk, who is also a good basket-maker, and weaver of lobby cloths; three, who have qualified themselves in music; one of whom is now an organist, the other two,\* teachers. There is one blind woman now maintaining herself by spinning, and four men (one at Bristol, and three at Liverpool) who are at present supporting themselves comfortably, at home, by making baskets and hampers.

\* One of these is employed as a teacher at the asylum, and is capable of quilling, stringing, and tuning instruments; those at the asylum being wholly under his care. He is now obtaining a very comfortable livelihood, by tuning instruments, and teaching music in the town of Liverpool.  
5. Jan. 1799.

The average fund of this charity arises from subscription and donations. The great disbursement consists in wages paid the blind, and their teachers ; to which are to be added some trivial expences. The difference between these and the net produce of the goods manufactured by the blind, constitutes the expence of the charity ; and is supplied by voluntary subscriptions and donations, amounting to about £.650 a year, and by the contributions of the friends or parishes of the blind persons employed. Upon my visiting the asylum to-day (3d August, 1798), I found 43 blind persons at work ; 16 of whom were females, and 27 males. The allowance to them, for their support,\* does not exceed 5 shillings a week ; of which their parish is expected (or their friends, if able) to contribute a part. This has the effect of affording a bounty on work, and encourages very potently the acquisition and practice of habits of industry. If any persons refuse to apply, or are incapable of learning, they are dismissed the school, and their places supplied with more proper objects.

\* The blind employed in the asylum continue to live with their friends, or (if strangers) are lodged and boarded in the town. A building is now erecting for the accommodation of such as have no domestic connections at Liverpool. I take the liberty of recommending to the governors, and to Mr. Pudsey Dawson, to whose benevolent attentions the charity has been, and now is extremely indebted, the establishing for such persons on the establishment, *as wish to attend it*, a cheap dinner ; such as those mentioned in the Society's Reports, No. 4. and No. 33. It would be a great saving to them, and would tend to promote regularity and good order.



## OBSERVATIONS.

The loss of sight is in itself a very severe calamity ; but it is a great aggravation of it, that the blind are impressed with the humiliating idea, they are useless in themselves, and in many cases a burthen to others ;—that their condition is considered as hopeless and irremediable ; as if the loss of one faculty were a sufficient reason for neglecting the cultivation of all the rest. To remove this prejudice,—to call into action such other powers of body and mind, as they may yet be enabled to exercise,—to alleviate, as far as may be, one of the greatest afflictions incident to our nature, and to afford active employment for those hours, which would be otherwise spent in gloom and despondency,—to render the blind happy in themselves, and useful to society, is the noble and exemplary object of the asylum at Liverpool.

Instead of offering gratuitous relief, which does not appear well calculated eventually to diminish their misfortune,—instead of feeding and clothing them in a state of restraint and confinement, separated from their friends and connections, and without occupation or exertion on their part,—the school for the blind instructs them *to maintain themselves* ; and while it leaves them an option of conduct and situation, affords them the power of benefiting by the charity as far as they think proper :—it preserves the ties of family, restores them to their friends, improved and advantaged in the means of life ; and, combining the best parts of

the best charities, it obtains all these great important objects with the utmost economy, and at a very trifling expence.

Schools of instruction for the blind would be very useful as county charities; to which any parishes or individuals, who contributed to the fund, should have a power of recommending objects upon certain terms. He who enables a blind person, without any painful excess of labour, to earn his own livelihood, does him more real service, than if he had pensioned him to a greater amount: and if the sums, which benevolence applies to support blind persons *without their own labour*, were employed in instructing them\* *to labour for themselves*, there cannot be much doubt, but that they would be sufficient to the object of maintaining all the well disposed blind, who want relief in this country.

Of all their trades, basket-making has answered best for the poor persons themselves. In many other instances, the instruction of the blind requires a different process, and a peculiar mode of education:

\* An establishment has been formed at Edinburgh, for the indigent blind, on the model, and from information derived from the Reverend Mr. Dannett, who was the first conductor of the asylum at Liverpool.—There were 22 blind persons receiving the benefit of it in May, 1796.—Another is now forming at Bristol.—It is hoped that other places will follow the example.—I may be allowed to add, that there would be both economy and kindness in giving the same kind of assistance to poor persons, who have had the misfortune to lose a limb, and thereby to be deprived of the common advantages of labour. In such cases, a little attention, and a *very little parochial assistance applied in time*, would prevent the sufferer from continuing to be a burthen to himself and the public.

but this art is soon learnt, and the business set up on a very small capital. In parishes the teaching the necessitous blind that, or some similar occupation, would be a blessing to them, and a great relief to the parish, on whom they must otherwise be pensioners for life.

I cannot avoid adding a wish that the blind, after they have learnt a trade, might *all* be gratified with a little instruction in music, as a relief to their vacant hours. The loss of sight is generally supplied by the increased acuteness of the other senses. There has been no instance of a blind person at the Foundling, who has not been instructed in music, and to whom that instruction has not proved a support and a blessing.

*3d August, 1798.*

## No. XLV.

*Extract from an account of the Samaritan society, for convalescents from the London hospital, and for cases not within the provisions of public hospitals.*  
*By the Rev. Dr. GLASSE.*

IN the year 1791, a society was established by some of the governors of the London hospital, for patients of that charity, whose relief was not within its general regulations. There had been many cases of servants, artizans, and labourers, who had received the benefit of the hospital; but, upon being discharged, had no service or employment ready for them, or, if there had been such, were not sufficiently recovered, in point of health and strength, to resume their places or employment. There had been cases of amputation or of some chirurgical operation, where the parties were disabled from exercising their former occupations. Some instances had occurred of young female patients, who by distress had been driven to pawn or sell their clothing, and were peculiarly exposed to temptation; of persons whose families had been suffering for want of support: of others belonging to remote parts of the kingdom, or to Ireland, who when discharged from the hospital, were by lameness, or weakness, rendered incapable of getting home without charitable assistance. There were some instances where the means of a journey to the charitable establish-

ment at Bath, or to the sea, or the immediate supply of linen, of clothes, or of a truss, might have saved a fellow-creature from distress, and restored him in health to his family.

For the relief of these, and of other persons not within the provisions of hospitals, the SAMARITAN SOCIETY was established ; and the following regulations were adopted, which I give at length, because they may be of use in forming similar societies.—“ 1st. A donation of five guineas shall be a qualification for a member for life.—2d. A donation of one guinea shall be a qualification of an annual member.—3d. A general court shall be held half yearly, on the last Wednesdays in February and August, and shall consist of not less than five members.—4th. A treasurer, and a committee, to consist of not less than twelve members besides the treasurer, shall be annually elected at the general court in February : two of the committee shall go out annually, and two other members be chosen in their place.—5th. A committee shall be held every Tuesday at twelve o'clock ; and shall consist of not less than two members.—6th. Qualified persons shall be proposed at one committee, and voted for at the next.—7th. The committee shall appoint one or more visitors ; who shall make inquiries of the officers, or other persons in the hospital, concerning the distressful circumstances of the patients, and report to the next committee accordingly.—8th. No recommendation from any person whatever, whether a member of the society or not, shall be regarded farther than



as it may be explanatory of the distress of the object under consideration, and as it may thence assist the committee in their proceedings.—9th. The proceedings of the society shall be exactly recorded; together with the names of all persons relieved, their age, place of nativity, parish, occupation, whether they are married or single, the state of their family, or any circumstance claiming the particular consideration of the society, as well as the relief granted.—10th. The names of, at least, two members of the committee, by order of the committee, shall be subscribed to drafts upon the treasurer.—11th. An exact account of the receipts, disbursements, and fund, of the society, shall be laid before every committee; which shall audit and sign the same, and send an abstract thereof annually to every member.—12th. The treasurer, and two other members, appointed at a general court, shall be trustees for investments in the funds.—13th. All legacies and donations, above one guinea shall be added to the invested fund, which shall be inviolable.—14th. The expenditure of each year shall by no means exceed the annual income arising from the interest of the invested fund, and those donations which do not exceed one guinea; nor shall any debts be incurred, so as to anticipate the receipts of the society.—15th. Rules for the government of the society, shall be approved by one general court, and confirmed by the next; the members being informed of every approved regulation, at least six days before the general court, at which its confirmation will be considered.—16th. At general courts

and committees, questions shall be determined by a majority, the chairman having a casting vote ; and, if a ballot should be demanded by two members, it shall be proceeded upon immediately.— 17th. The treasurer, the assembled committee, or any five members of the society, shall have power to call extraordinary general courts.”

The society consists of about 50 annual subscribers of one guinea each, and about 70 members for life, who have given donations of 5 guineas each. From the first institution of the society in 1791 to 5th of September, 1798, as many as 221 distressed persons have been relieved, and put in a course of livelihood, who must otherwise have been driven to beggary, if not to criminal courses, for subsistence.

In March, 1795, the society had the satisfaction to find that the good effects of this establishment had been experienced by many poor patients in the London hospital ; who, after they had been cured of their diseases, and were in a state of convalescence, had been supplied with necessaries, and enabled to return home, and renew their occupations. The benefit had not been less to their wives and families ; to whom occasional and seasonable relief had been administered, during the sickness and confinement of the patient. The utility and propriety of the charity seemed to be now unequivocally established. The committee therefore determined to recommend it as an appendage not only to every hospital, but also to every county jail ; in the latter instance, as the means, not merely of

preserving delinquents from distress, but of restoring them to character, and to habits of occupation; there being frequent instances that persons, tho not yet confirmed in vicious courses, might otherwise have been driven back to the commission of crimes, for the mere protraction of existence.

A circumstance which contributed very much to the establishment of this society deserves to be mentioned, as it exemplifies the cases which have been relieved by it. One of the members of this society passing along the Uxbridge road, observed a man of a very decent appearance, reclined on a bank by the way side, with a pair of crutches near him. His account of himself was (and we have no reason whatsoever to question the truth of it) "that he was a Gloucestershire manufacturer; "that he had been a short time in London, where "he had the misfortune to break his leg, and had "been admitted a patient into an hospital; that his "leg had been very well set, and all proper care "had been taken of him; and, upon his discharge "that morning, some gentleman, he said, had kindly "given him a shilling, on part of which he had "subsisted so far; that he was going to his parish "in Gloucestershire, but had not the means of "paying for his carriage in the waggon." This story was not related in vain.—I leave it to the reader's consideration, what course of life remained to this poor man (had he not unexpectedly met with friendly assistance) but to beg,—to steal,—or to perish.

## OBSERVATIONS.

Amidst the great variety of charities, for which this age and kingdom are distinguished, it is extraordinary, that the provision, which is the subject of this paper, should have experienced so little attention; and it is the more surprising, because upon the first institution of the charities, which were intended to provide for part of the inconveniences from the abolition of monasteries, the utility of such an establishment appears to have been strongly impressed on the minds of the original projectors. In the declaration made to the privy council, by the citizens of London, in the reign of Edward the Sixth, concerning the uses to which Bridewell, and the two other great foundations of Christ's hospital and St. Thomas's hospital, were to be applied, one of the three objects of Bridewell is expressed to be, "for the sore and the sick when they be cured;" in order that they may be protected and employed until their entire recovery: and "not be suffered to wander as vagabonds in the commonwealth, as they had been accustomed."

This part, however, of the original intentions of the projectors of that institution has not been yet carried into effect. As a committee of the governors of that hospital is now sitting for the purpose of inquiring "whether, and by what means, the estates and revenues of the house of Bridewell can be appropriated with greater effect than at present to the benefit of its original and proper objects," I shall conclude this paper by a short extract from

three of a series of propositions, made by one of the members of the committee, and since printed by their order, and entered as resolutions on their minutes.

“That there are many deserving and necessitous persons, who, at the time of their being discharged from hospitals, are without the power of labour, or the means of support; and who, for want of that establishment which was one of the original objects of Bridewell, have been driven to solicit the charity of the public, as street beggars. That, such is the infirmity of human nature, they who have thus discovered a successful and easy trade, are not likely, of themselves to discontinue it, and to return to a course of labour; and, if the pauper does not receive charitable relief in his distress, he is sometimes induced to prey upon the public for his subsistence; and, to use the language of the rules of the house of Bridewell drawn up in 1557, *being set at liberty in the highways, is made of a sick beggar a whole thief*.—These persons, it is to be observed, will require, and that only for a short time, an asylum, where, being many of them artizans instructed in a trade, and almost all of them habituated to employment, their earnings would in general be more than what the cost of their diet, if economically managed, would amount to: and there is reason to hope, that the number of persons wanting this relief, would very soon be diminished by the proper application of it; and that the hospitals in the metropolis would be thereby greatly



relieved ; as it is a known fact that many patients, for want of the means of *entire recovery* of health and strength on quitting one hospital, have soon been obliged to apply for admission even into another."

10th Nov. 1798.

## No. XLVI.

*Extract from an account of a society established, at Lymington, in Hampshire, for the benefit of distressed females. By the Rev. WILLIAM GILPIN.*

AMONG the many friendly societies which have been instituted by day labourers in different parts of the country, an idea was adopted at Lymington, that something of this kind might be of great benefit to *distressed females*; and especially in that place, which being a little sea-port, and frequented by the seamen of small coasting vessels, and boatmen, their wives are often put to inconveniences by the misfortunes, and even by the absence of their husbands.

Mrs. Pierce took an active part in the business. Her first step was to consult among her friends, what support an institution of this kind was likely to receive; she soon found there was sufficient for the execution of her plan. Between thirty and forty inhabitants of Lymington, and its neighbourhood, were ready to subscribe each 14s. a year, or 3d. a week, which was all the assistance she desired. A committee of ladies was then appointed to arrange the business; but Mrs. Pierce continued to be the most active member, by taking on herself the most troublesome office—that of treasurer.

On the 5th of April, 1790, the society was established. The regulations of it were chiefly these, —It was particularly intended for lying-in women,

but was soon extended to the sick of every denomination. No one could enter as an object of this charity under the age of 15, nor above 50. It was required that she should be a parishioner, of good character, and in good health at the time of her entrance. On putting down her name she pays 6*d.*; and three-half-pence every week. Before she receives relief, her name must have been a year on the books; she is then intitled to 3*s.* a week during any illness with which she may be visited; but she receives it only during the term of 13 weeks; if she is not then recovered, she receives 1*s.* a week only, while it is thought necessary. Once a year a charity sermon is preached, at which between £10. and £16. are generally collected. By this aid, and by great economy in the management of the fund, it has increased so much, that, instead of 3*s.* a week, it already affords 4*s.* After the sermon, which is generally preached on the second Sunday in August, all the poor members who are able to go to church, walk in procession to the town-hall, with their patronesses at their head, who treat them with cake and wine. This is a pleasant day to them, and makes some return to the healthy, for not having had occasion to draw upon the fund for sickness. The grand murmur indeed against all those modes of relief, is, that they, who have had little occasion for them, think their money has been ill spent, tho at the same time it is a fact, that most of the members of this society have at one time or other, received relief from it; not fewer in the whole than 65; of these

35 were women in child-bed. Two women have been on the books, with lame hands, at 1s. a week, for some years; and a third has been long relieved in a deep decline.

Indulgences are sometimes added, when personal misfortune is not to be pleaded. In the late scarcity of bread-corn, each poor member received a half-gallon loaf every Wednesday, for six weeks; and during the last two winters, each had three bushels of coals.—The society, at this time, consists of 55 poor members.

25th June, 1798.

## No. XLVII.

*Extract from an account of a Sunday friendly society for the aged poor, at Winston. By the Reverend THOMAS BURGESS.*

IN May, 1798, there was established at Winston, in the county of Durham, in consequence of a suggestion of the Bishop of Durham, a friendly society for the aged poor; the object of which is to promote among them the due observance of the Sabbath, the study of the Scriptures, and of other good books, and also frugality and good neighbourhood.

For this purpose, they make a point of attending church on Sundays, when not prevented by sickness, infirmity, or some unavoidable impediment; and also on other days, whenever they have opportunity; they likewise agree not to countenance any games or improper pastimes on a Sunday, by looking on, or sitting near them; and to use all the influence which they possess, to dissuade others from profaning the Lord's day;—they meet every Sunday evening at each other's houses, for religious improvement: and make it a general rule, to lay by every week something of their earnings, to accumulate till the end of the year; allotting however a tenth part thereof, and of the benefit they derive from the society, towards the relief of any of their necessitous neighbours, who (tho not belonging to the society) should appear to merit their charitable assistance. They likewise agree to make it their business to do every thing



that in them lies, to promote good will, good neighbourhood, and Christian charity, one amongst another.

The following are the rules of the society:

1. Any person may be a member of the society, who is sixty years of age or upwards.
2. Every subscriber of one penny per week, who is sixty years of age, or upwards, and under seventy, to be entitled to receive *double* his subscription, at the end of the year; that is, his own subscription, and as much more.
3. Every subscriber of one penny per week, who is seventy years of age, or upwards, and under fourscore, to be entitled to receive treble his subscription at the end of the year; that is, his own subscription, and twice as much more.
4. Every subscriber of one penny per week, who is fourscore years of age, or upwards, and under ninety, to receive *four times* his subscription at the end of the year; that is, his own subscription, and three times as much more.
5. And so in proportion for every increase of ten years.
6. Any blind person, of any age, may be a member of the society; and, if under sixty years of age, will be entitled to the same benefit as subscribers who are sixty years of age, and under seventy.
7. Every member who absents himself from church on Sundays, except in case of sickness, or some unavoidable impediment, to forfeit his benefit upon the subscription of that week.
8. If any member of this society should die in

the course of the year, his friends will be entitled to receive his subscription, and so much benefit, as is proportioned to the time of subscribing.

9. Any person desirous of promoting the purposes of the society, without partaking of the benefit, may be an *honorary member*, by subscribing annually a guinea, or half a guinea, or not less than two pence per week ; for which they will be entitled to receive weekly one copy of such publications, as may be purchased for the use of the society.

10. The subscription to be paid at the time of the weekly meeting, to the member, at whose house the reading is held ; to be delivered by him to the secretary, on the Monday following.

11. The annual subscription to be paid at the time of commencing member.

12. No members to receive any publication, whose subscription is in arrears.

13. No benefit member, who is in arrears, to receive any benefit till his arrears are paid.

This society consists of four honorary members (who subscribe an annual guinea each for the benefit of the fund), and nine old men and women, one of the age of 101 years, one a poor blind woman, and the other seven of ages between 60 and 80. The honorary members have it in their power, by their weekly or annual subscriptions, not only to enlarge, and improve the means of assisting the poorer members of the society, but at the same time to contribute to the amusement and instruction of their children, and servants, and neighbours, by

distributing among them the tracts of the Cheap Repository, and those of the society for promoting Christian knowledge, which are purchased for the use of the society.

The books which are selected for reading to them are, Orton's Discourses to the aged,—Bishop Wilson's Sermons,—Bishop Wilson on the Sacrament,—Bishop Beveridge's private Thoughts,—Flavell's Husbandry spiritualized, adapted to present use,—Christian Husbandry,—Fawcett's religious Weaver.—Burder's Village Sermons,—and Peers's Companion for the Aged.

The origin of this society was as follows.—I spoke to one of the old men, who had some turn for reading, and offered to come and read to him on the Sunday evening. The old man thanked me for the offer, and afterwards appeared much gratified with what I had done. I then told him that I would visit him the next Sunday evening; and that any other old persons among his neighbours, who wished it, might be present. A neighbour and his wife attended; and, on the Sunday after, other old persons came, in consequence of leave given them upon their application. Finding the Sunday readings gave pleasure to them, I made an offer of forming a regular society, on the terms before mentioned. This they gladly accepted, and have since expressed great satisfaction in this new employment of their Sunday evening.

There is a cheap but comfortable Sunday dinner provided, gratis, for all who attend church. It is prepared from one of the receipts in the first

volume of the Society's Reports, the expence of it not exceeding three halfpence a head. They dine at the house of one of the members, which from its situation is most convenient for the infirm members. The dinner is dressed at the Rectory, and sent on the Saturday evening to the house, where they dine.

The oldest and most infirm members are now become very punctual in their attendance on church; and by their example and influence, have contributed very much to the better observance of the Sabbath at Winston.

#### OBSERVATIONS.

The Sunday readings were proposed, and the society which grew out of them, was established, in consequence of a suggestion in the Bishop of Durham's charge \* to the clergy of the diocese of Durham, in 1797, where the reader will find a

\* The reader will find the whole passage in the Bishop's charge very deserving of his perusal. It follows—"In  
 " most country parishes, there is a considerable proportion  
 " of the poor, who, from want of early education, cannot  
 " partake of the advantages to be derived from reading.  
 " An old man, who, from age and incapacity for labour,  
 " finds himself disengaged from this world, and approach-  
 " ing every day nearer to the next, and yet is shut out, in  
 " a great degree, from the light and consolations of the  
 " Gospel, by his inability to read the word of God, and  
 " good books, is an object of real pity; and to relieve  
 " such necessity as this, is, indeed, one of the highest acts  
 " of Christian charity. The parish church, it is true, is  
 " accessible to him; and, if he be well disposed, he will  
 " be more diligent in frequenting it: but we all know,  
 " how difficult it often is to confine the mind to the proper  
 " object of prayer, even with the assistance of the written  
 " form. How much more difficult must it be for him,

strong recommendation of the establishment of societies of the poor for their religious improvement:

The institution of such societies, appears to be susceptible of very extensive advantages. It supplies by very practicable means, what was before wanting in the religious instruction of the poor. Sunday schools provide for the instruction of the young; these societies will promote the edification and comfort of the old. The Sunday friendly society is founded on principles, very favourable to religious and moral improvement, and to the cultivation of benevolence and philanthropy among the poor. It connects the aged poor in a friendly and Christian-like manner with their minister, and with one another. It brings into exercise a virtue,

"whose vacant mind is open to the intrusion of every vain  
 "and idle thought? And, with all the advantages of public worship, he will still have many unoccupied, tedious, and solitary hours, which it would be happy for him if he could convert to the service of eternity. Much, I conceive, might be done by occasional conference with him at his own dwelling, concerning the state of his faith, his hopes, and his views of futurity. And, if this conference were accompanied with the reading to him of some portion of scripture, or of some easy tract on the truth and promises of the Gospel, his minister would do him an act of inestimable kindness. If you could advance one step beyond this, and induce the aged poor to assist one another, and form little societies in a large, or one society in a small parish, at which those who are readers might read to those who are not, it would be bringing your poor to a most desirable and edifying state of spiritual communion; such as would contribute very greatly to their comfort during the short period of remaining life, as well as at the awful hour of death."—The Bishop of Durham's visitation charge in 1797; p. 25 of the quarto edition.



which is too often considered as out of the poor man's sphere; as by it they not only receive charity, but become also the dispensers of it to others.

The allotment of their charitable tithe to the benefit of neighbours, who are *not* of their society, and the obliging of themselves by their *rules*, to the observance of the duties of religion and benevolence, may be the means of gaining two great points in the cultivation of the heart; one, a correction of the selfish principle; the other, a deliberate resolution of living and acting by rule and method. To the poor, who cannot read at all,—to those who cannot afford to buy books,—to those who are desirous of spiritual improvement, and of employing their latter days in a way the most conducive to the comfort of their last hours,—to the frugal, the neighbourly, and the benevolent, such an institution cannot fail to be very acceptable.

The value of religious societies, as helps to religious instruction and edification, has been long known to several sects of Christians. With them they have been the source of much useful instruction, and the means of keeping up a spirit of social and vital religion; and they contribute to aid the force of example, and therefore operate very beneficially on individual conduct. It would be happy for the cause of Christianity, if the friends of the established church would unite in following their example. Happy indeed would it be, if, at length, all contention between the different denominations of Christians, were reduced to an amicable rivalry, in the great work of saving souls;—in provoking

one another to good works. In a word, if all our efforts, from however distant points they may originate, were to centre in a friendly competition in doing good.

To those who look with an anxious eye on the progress of the poor's-rate, every institution that tends to encourage good conduct among the poor, must be the object of approbation; but those must be peculiarly so, which are calculated to afford relief to the elder and more infirm poor, by an *annual* charity, as a benefit upon *frugality* and good behaviour.

In forming a Sunday friendly society it is immaterial with how small a number the commencement is made; except, indeed, that there may be rather more advantages in beginning only with a few, and letting others find out the benefits of being members from conversation with those who are. The utmost that seems necessary (after two or three have agreed to meet together\* for reading the Scriptures and other good books on Sunday evenings, and to bind themselves to a punctual observance of religious duties) is to distribute the rules of such society at some, or all, of the cottages in the parish.

It is a very desirable circumstance, that the meetings should be at the houses of the members by

\* It is submitted to the reader's consideration, whether the months of April or May, when the days are longer, and the weather is more favourable, will not be better for the commencement of one of these societies, than the winter months.

rotation; as it will not only be more satisfactory to them, but will conduce much to friendly intercourse and charitable communion. If the elderly poor in any town or village, should be too numerous to meet in one house, they may be divided into classes, and one or more of the members be employed as readers to the class, where the minister cannot attend regularly to more than one class.

The weekly penny should not be considered as a subscription, or condition of being admitted a member, but as a voluntary act of frugality. If they lay by their penny, and are not so regular as their rules require, they will still receive their own again; but it will be their own single talent unimproved. They may be members, if they please, without laying by their penny: a wish to partake of the Sunday readings, and to join in a religious observance of the Sabbath, is a sufficient qualification.

They may, possibly, be devout without being frugal; and yet frugality is so great a virtue in the poor, that it might be worth while to encourage and recommend to them the weekly deposit,\* as a means of benefiting themselves by the charitable disposition of their richer neighbours: a circumstance, that will render the charity not only more useful, than if it was merely gratuitous, but gene-

\* The annual dividend has been just made. The old men all appear extremely pleased, and thankful for the benefit which they receive on their savings. They are become very punctual in their attendance on church; and the number of communicants at the sacrament in Winston church is nearly doubled. 26th. Dec. 1798.

rally (it may be supposed) on that account more acceptable to them.

In large families and populous towns, the benefit upon the weekly savings might be in a great degree, if not wholly, raised from the contributions of the honorary members. In small parishes the expence of the benefit will be inconsiderable: but even there, will be generally found some honorary members, to share the expence with the land owner, and with the clergyman of the parish.—

A society of a similar nature has been lately instituted at Bishops Auckland by the Bishop of Durham, who has the dinner provided for them, and supplies the extra fund, without the contribution of any honorary members. It consists at present of 20 members; all (as there is reason to believe) gradually advancing to a more comfortable state of mind, and happy in their preparation for eternity.

—In the formation of different societies, some difference in the detail may be occasioned by the circumstances of the place or the parties, but the general idea and the object will probably be the same.

25th Oct. 1798.

## No. XLVIII.

*Extract from an account of a parish Windmill at Chislehurst in Kent. By the Reverend FRANCIS WOLLASTON.*

**T**HE scarcity of wheat in the summer of 1795, led many of the inhabitants of Chislehurst, into a wish, that they might have a mill on their common, under such regulations that each person might be certain of having his own corn fairly ground, and returned to him in due measure, and of its being dressed to such a degree of fineness as he should choose; or, that he might be able to purchase at a fair price, such kind of flour, mixed or unmixed, as he wished.

The building of one at the expence of the parish was their first thought. But they were dissuaded from that, by its being pointed out to them, that such an expense would fall very heavy upon many persons, who could already barely support the weight of the present rates. For, whether the principal were to be raised upon the parish in the first instance, or the money to be obtained by granting life annuities out of the rates, which last requires a special authority, in either case it would be felt as a very great burthen. It was therefore proposed to the parishoners, that if they would give their consent to the granting of a part of the common for that purpose, a set of ladies and gentle-



men (the number of them being at last settled to be ten) would undertake the whole at their own expence, and build a parish mill. Two particular days in each week, should be allotted to the working for the poor; or for such persons as should bring but small quantities of corn to be ground: the person who brought it, should be allowed, if he chose, to stay and see it ground; and, after having it dressed just as he might choose, should take it away with him, upon paying in ready money 4*d.* per bushel for the grinding, and 2*d.* for the dressing, where it should be dressed: but that on other days, or when there was no grist-work sent in, the mill might be worked for the benefit of the proprietors; or it might be let by them to a tenant, under the same restrictions.—On these conditions the ground was granted: and on the failure of the conditions, it was agreed that it should be forfeited, and revert to the parish.

The original idea of the proprietors, was to erect a mill, such as had been built a few years before on Dartford Brent. The basement of brick, the mill itself of timber, with the head alone turning to the wind. The cost of that at Dartford was said to have been £800. The sum of £200. more was intended to be added for a house for the miller; the shares being estimated at £100. to each proprietor. Mr. John Hall of Dartford, who had been employed in the mill at that place, was consulted; and at last it was agreed that he should build that at Chislehurst. No precise terms were drawn up in writing concerning it. He

offered to undertake it for £1000; or to build it as should be directed, and to be paid by measure and value when it was completed. The last proposal was preferred.

Orders were given to him accordingly; and he promised to lay the foundation early in the spring of 1796: and in the mean time to prepare every thing in forwardness, so as for the mill to work by the Michaelmas following.

The foundation was laid as had been proposed, and the outer frame was erected early in the summer of 1796: but the mill cannot be said to have worked till the end of April, 1797; nor was it completed till September in that year.

In the mean time a neat miller's house was finished; and about 2 acres of land inclosed for his use. The work certainly appears to be well executed. The mill carries 3 pair of stones. Two pair of French ones for wheat; and one bed-stone, French, with a runner of Peak-stone, for barley, or hogs' meat. There is also a machine for dressing the meal; in which the revolution of the brushes is easily reversed, for their preservation; as also a bolting machine for cloths of any kind. The mill itself draws up the sacks, and sets them down on any of the floors. The wind-shaft, and the cross, are of cast iron. The head turns itself into the wind, by a fan-tail and rack work. The cap is a hemisphere very curiously formed, both for beauty, and for keeping out the weather, by means of bent planks. The weather boarding of the mill itself is also unusually good; every part being covered

doubly. The joints at each angle (for the body of the mill is octagonal) are covered with sheet lead : which helps to form part of a metallic communication from the top to the earth, as a security against lightning.

The mill carries 3 pair of stones. But the wind seldom serves for working them altogether ; especially when the dressing machines are at work too. Yet it is reported that the proprietors of the Barham mill, which has but 2 pair of stones, wish their mill had been upon a larger scale. If that be really the case, it may deserve consideration, whenever a parish mill is undertaken, whether a mill of an intermediate size may not upon the whole be more advisable.

The design of the proprietors in erecting the mill, never was to undersell the fair dealer in any respect : or to let even the poor have their meal at a price below the market : but to put it in the power of each person, in every station of life, to obtain such flour of any sort of grain as he might choose ; and to obtain it of a good quality.

This it is imagined that they have now done. Those who choose to send their own corn, may do it ; and may see to its being fairly returned to them. On Mondays and Tuesdays, in every week, the smallest quantities are not to be refused to be ground for the poor : and each person may have his meal dressed in any manner he may desire. Those of any condition in life who choose to buy, may buy at the mill, of a good quality and at a fair price. All the effect intended to be pro-

duced on other millers, or on the retail dealers of the shops, was to make it to their interest, to deal fairly by their customers.

### OBSERVATIONS.

The mill at Chislehurst, certainly, is a convenience to the neighbourhood. It is not apprehended that it has, in any degree, hurt the millers around the place; tho it has already almost as much work as it can perform. This seems to shew that a mill was really wanted: and it has put other millers, the shopkeepers, and bakers on their guard, at the same time that it has injured nobody.

One effect intended by it has answered; the certainty of obtaining meal of what quality, of what degree of mixture with other kinds of grain, or of what fineness you choose; and the having the produce of your own corn returned fairly to you. This last may sometimes be doubtful at other mills; and probably sometimes is doubted, where the return is fairly made. Here any one may assure himself that it is so, if he pleases.

It is proper to caution the reader against an error, into which the proprietors have fallen, and from which those of the mill at Barham Downs\* have been exempt;—the want of sufficient care as to the *expense* of the undertaking.

The mill at Chislehurst has certainly been not only more expensive than was intended, but more

\* The mill at Barham Downs cost only £ 336; the scales and utensils of different kinds £ 17; in all £ 353; only £ 33. beyond the sum originally proposed. See Report, No. 8.

so than was necessary. The builder offered to undertake it for £1000; or to build it as should be directed, and to be paid by measure and value, when it was completed; which last proposal was preferred.—The proprietors did not attend to the progress of the work, in the same manner as those would have done, who had *their own profit* in view; so that when the bills were sent in, they contained a charge of above £470. for day work; all of it for articles, which the proprietors understood were to be charged by measure. In the whole, the millwright's bill has amounted to £1765.; besides £214. the cost of the house, and £44. for the fencing.

During the 5 months, from April to September, 1797, while the miller was interrupted by the workmen completing the mill, he paid the proprietors at the rate of 4 per cent. on £1000. the money then advanced. From Michaelmas, 1797, he undertook it at the rate of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on £1700. and from Ladyday last at £73. 10s. a year, being  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on £2100. the whole money expended. He seems to have no doubt but that he will be able by and by to pay a larger interest; but the fact is that they cannot now let it, to produce above four per cent.

It seems necessary to state these circumstances; in order that those who are desirous of benefiting their neighbourhood by a parish mill, may be cautioned against unguarded and extraordinary expense.—Parish mills are at present much wanted:



98 PARISH WINDMILL AT CHISLEHURST.

the erection of them will be very useful in most parts of England; and with a proper degree of attention, they will pay a sufficient interest upon the money to be expended in the erection of them.

22d Dec. 1798.

## No. XLIX.

*Extract from an account of the late improvements, in the house of industry, at Dublin. By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.*

IN the beginning of the year 1797, an act of parliament was passed in Ireland, for the regulation of the Dublin house of industry. It had been under the direction of the corporation for the relief of the poor in Dublin; consisting of the principal officers of state, the aldermen of the city, and others, in all about 200 governors; a number, which promised very little regular attention, and afforded no personal responsibility. Count Rumford had, in May, 1796, visited Dublin, at the instance of Mr. Secretary Pelham; and had concerted with him the necessary arrangements, for the improvement of the establishment, and for the correction of the existing defects. By the new act (which was brought into the Irish house of commons by Mr. Pelham in the ensuing session) the conduct of the institution was confided to seven acting governors,\* or directors, to be annually elected by, and out of, the members of the corporation.

The average number of the persons then in the house exceeded 1700. These were formed into classes, according to their ages, conduct, abilities,

\* This extract is principally taken from the report of the acting governors, lately published at Dublin.

and other peculiar circumstances; and from among them was selected a *class of merit* (lodged and fed apart from the others) consisting of those who had distinguished themselves by superior industry, by moral and regular conduct, and by obedience to the rules of the house.

Each class was placed under the immediate superintendence of one of the directors; who engaged to pay daily attention to it, and to make his report regularly to the board: so that a register was obtained of the circumstances and conduct of all the persons in the house; a line was drawn between the idle vagrant and the distressed manufacturer; their wants were accurately known, and immediately attended to.—For the religious duties of the poor, there were two chaplains on the establishment; one a Protestant, the other a Roman Catholic.

Many persons had originally entered the house with an expectation of receiving better and more food, *without any labour*, than what they could have obtained *by their industry* out of the house. In order to diminish the effect of this potent encouragement to idleness (the inconvenience of which is not confined to the city of Dublin exclusively) the directors recurred to the principle, which had been acted upon at Hamburgh, and which has been stated in a preceding Report. They reduced the *ordinary* diet of the house below what any industrious labourer, out of the house, could obtain by his earnings at the lowest rate of wages: at the same time, in order that the poor persons upon the establishment might *enjoy* the profits of their work,

in the manner most pleasant and most advantageous to themselves, the directors opened a shop in the house ; where every article of reasonable luxury, and innocent gratification, is sold at prime cost, upon a plan similar to that of the shop established at Mongewell by the Bishop of Durham ; an account whereof is given in our first Report.

The expense of the diet of the house had been very great. This had been occasioned, partly by the kind of food with which they had been supplied, and partly by the peculation of the persons employed. In order to correct the latter, the following mode of distribution has been adopted : the head porter, every morning early, returns to the secretary the number to be provided with food for the day. The secretary then calculates the quantity necessary to be issued from the stores ; and the several officers acknowledge the receipt in pass books, which being compared once a week with the steward's store book, the balance is ascertained.

The directors also adopted a cheaper and more nutritive system of diet. The ox-head stew, the receipt for which is given in the Report, No. 10, and soups prepared upon Count Rumford's principle, have been distributed to the poor : and the practice which existed among them, of exchanging their bread for whiskey, has been put an end to ; the bread being now mixed with the soup, before the distribution.—The improvement in the health of the poor, in consequence of the new system, has been almost commensurate to the increased economy of the house : the expense of diet for the

half year from Midsummer, 1797 (when the new regulations took place) being very little more than half, and the proportionate mortality in the house less than three-fifths, of what they had been in the preceding half year.

In promoting the health and the economy of the house, the directors have also had the benefit of Count Rumford's assistance. His double boilers, with close covers, have been put up under his direction. He has invented, and constructed in one of their lumber rooms, *a perpetual oven*,\* which would be very useful in all our public establishments. It occupies a circular space, about 7 feet in diameter, in the centre of the room; and contains six cells for baking bread, or dressing food, all heated by one small fire, and ready in succession (or at the same time if wanted) for baking, or for any operation of cookery.

What Count Rumford has done for warming and ventilating their larger rooms, is very deserving of imitation. There are two fire-places, one in the office of the master of the work, the other in the hall of merit; with flues extending horizontally, at the height of five feet from the floor, to a chimney in the centre. These communicate a sufficient and equable degree of heat, through the two great dining halls. Two of Count Rumford's louvres carry off the vitiated air; and a fresh supply

\* See the Dublin account, p. 16; and Count Rumford's sixth Essay, p. 171.

† These louvres ought to be used, not only in houses of industry, manufactories, and jails, but in all crowded rooms,



of *atmospheric* air is obtained by small apertures, which are made at the bottom of the side walls, and covered with perforated boxes.

Difficulties have always existed with regard to the mode of supplying the necessitous poor with clothing. Where it is given *gratuitously and indiscriminately*, it is neither sufficiently valued, nor properly preserved; it is *often* commuted for spirituous liquors, and it *always* has a tendency to relax industry. By the regulations adopted at Dublin, the clothing of all persons capable of labour, is to be supplied solely from their own exertions. At

where those, who have the misfortune to be confined in them, suffer extremely both in health and spirits, by exhausted and corrupted air. They are made on a very simple construction; and they not only act very powerfully, and are easily regulated, but their action may be totally suspended at pleasure. They are so constructed, that every wind that blows, acts at the same time, both by *compression* and by *exhaustion*, to ventilate the apartments with which they communicate. Part of those put up by Count Rumford at Dublin, were intended for a long garret over the hall. This garret, which was fitted up as a dormitory for some of their most industrious children, was so very low, that those who were destined to sleep in it, would certainly have felt the want of fresh air, had not some extraordinary means been used to procure a supply of it. The necessary ventilation is obtained by means of 3 six-sided vertical wooden tubes, which, passing through the roof of the building, project 3 or 4 feet above it, and communicate with the room below. By 2 of these tubes, placed at the two ends of the dormitory, and terminating in 2 long wooden boxes, which are bored full of small holes, and rest on the floor of the room, fresh atmospheric air from without is *forced* into the room, while the foul air is carried off by means of the third tube, placed over the middle of the room, with its lower opening even with the ceiling. This tube is furnished with a register, or damper. The whole of this machinery is made of wood; and as no part of it is moveable, except the register, it is not expensive, nor liable to be put out of order.

the same time, instead of *one sixth*, their former allowance, they have *two thirds of all their earnings*; the remaining third being deemed nearly sufficient to defray the expense of machinery and superintendence. As an additional encouragement, they whose clothing is furnished by their own industry, are permitted to have one day in the week to go out and visit their friends; the indulgence being, in their case, not liable to the general objection, that, while they were out of the house, they often made away with part of their clothes.

### OBSERVATIONS.

The labour of the directors of the house of industry at Dublin, has been extremely diminished by a proper distribution of attention, of authority, and of responsibility; by the power being placed in very few hands, *and by each director having the whole merit of his own personal exertions*. But, where there is much misery\* and depravity to correct,

\* It is hardly possible to enter into a detail of the late improvements in the Dublin house of industry, without advert- ing to the general situation of the lower class of our fellow- subjects in Ireland. Much, indeed, has been recently done by individuals, in particular districts; by Mr. Pelham, in encouraging the industry and good habits of the poor in the vicinity of Dublin, and in introducing a friendly communication between them and their more opulent neighbours; and by the Speaker, Mr. Foster, in the promotion of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce. These are of the highest order of national improvement; and afford a fair prospect, that what is so well begun, will be pursued with that energy and perseverance, which the importance of the subject demands.—The disadvantages of many of the poor in Ireland originate in want of education, in a total ignorance of the comforts of life, and a consequent indifference about

which appears to have been the case with the paupers on this establishment, it is requisite that prudence, activity, firmness, and perseverance, should all be employed, as they have been in this instance, much to the honour of the directors.

It must give great satisfaction to every one, who is aware that religion, morality, industry, and prudence, have, like the arts, a common bond of union, and produce their full effects in those instances only where they act in concert, to observe, that in this establishment, where there are so many Roman Catholics, objects of its protection, there is a priest of their own persuasion, provided for their religious improvement.—No reform of the poor can be *completely* brought about, without the aid of RELIGION.—This must be the *foundation* of every thing effectual, to be done for them:—the *super-structure* should be aid, encouragement, and distinction.

them. With such persons, the spur that should impel them to action, and *the bond that should connect them with society*, are wanting. Having neither property, nor the means of preserving it—confiding in the mildness of the climate, in the fertility of the soil, and in the facility of obtaining those mere necessities of existence with which they are acquainted—what security can their country possess for conduct, what impulse to industry and exertion?—The necessary remedies—the introduction of a proper system of education, of habits of cleanliness, and of a taste for the comforts of life, as applied to food, habitation, and clothes;—the extending of the power of acquiring property, and the means of preserving it;—the promoting of more connection, and more intercourse of kindness and benevolence, between the different ranks of life;—these are measures, which require *superior talents and industry* to arrange and conduct:—measures, essential, not merely to the prosperity of Ireland, but, at the present crisis, to the security of Great Britain.

In respect also of that superstructure, the arrangement in the Dublin house of industry is wise and judicious. The aid and encouragements\* given to industry, in this instance, have exceeded those of any similar establishment. But the peculiar feature of the institution, is *the distinction of classes*, particularly that of the separate and favoured CLASS OF MERIT ;—which must, gradually, become an object of ambition to every person in the house, to the amendment even of the most idle, and the most profligate.

The regulation which fixes (as at Hamburgh) their standard of the common diet, below what may be obtained by the earnings of the industrious labourer out of the house, is deserving of observation, and of imitation in England. Much injury is done to the spirit and feelings of the English cottager, not merely by the wanton and ostentatious profuseness of the rich and vain, but also by the gross and offensive waste, that is apparent in most of our workhouses and public charities.

\* Our system has been rather to prevent crimes by punishments, than to encourage virtue and industry by rewards. If the latter were brought more into action, the former would be less necessary. Punishment and terror may deter from crimes, but reward and incitement should be added, as stimulants to virtue. The certainty, or the dread, of being hanged for it, may prevent a man from committing a robbery or a murder ; but neither the gallows, nor any of the minor class of punishments, will ever promote industry, prudence, cleanliness, morality, or religion. "Man deters by fear of punishment ; but the Deity likewise invires by the hope of rewards."—I copy these last words from a letter of my friend, Mr. Penn, of Stoke Park ; who has discussed this subject very fully, in his "Timely Appeal," p. 26—46.

It is no small merit in the directors (I wish I could offer our public establishments in England the same tribute of commendation) that they have readily adopted the improvements suggested by Count Rumford; and, by attention and proper management, have given them their due success. They have taken the full benefit of his assistance in respect of the diet of the house—of the boilers and oven which he has constructed for them—and of the economical mode which he has suggested of warming and purifying the air of their larger rooms. The introduction of his improvements into *all our public establishments*, particularly those improvements which contribute to temper and sweeten the air in crowded buildings, would be an important and national benefit. Indeed, I am unreasonable enough to wish, that the other classes of society in England, instead of being kept from the habitations of the poor by their want of cleanliness, and by the dread of offensive or contagious air, would exert themselves effectually in assisting and enabling them to correct the evil.

1st Jan. 1799.



## No. L.

*Extract from an account of a provision for Chimney Sweepers' Boys, at Kingston upon Thames, with observations. By the BISHOP of DURHAM.*

IN August, 1798, a Sunday School, established at Kingston, was extended to the relief and instruction of the Chimney Sweeper's Boys in that place. They are indeed few in number, but they had been left (as in most parts of England those unfortunate boys are) without the means of cleanliness or of education, and without either example or instruction to induce religious or moral habits at that age which, wherever justice is done to the human character, ought to be the season of preparation for life.

They had been not only destitute of instruction, but, in some degree, of clothing; and, when unemployed, were left to wander, almost in a state of nature, excluded from the advantages of rational and Christian beings.—In order that they might be in proper condition to appear in the school, a lady in the neighbourhood, distinguished as much by her benevolence as her rank, clothed each of these poor objects in the following manner.

A jacket and pair of trowsers of coarse

blue cloth	-	-	-	0	10	6
Two shirts	-	-	-	0	7	0
A pair of shoes	-	-	-	0	4	0
A hat	-	-	-	0	2	3
				<hr/>		
				£	1	3 9

Besides this she sent to each chimney sweeper's house,

A straw paillasse	-	-	1	2	0
A pair of blankets	-	-	0	17	0
A washing tub	-	-	0	6	6

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£ 2 5 6

and a weekly allowance of a quarter of a pound of soap.

The boys are already improving in their reading, and some of them are now beginning to read in the New Testament. They are acquiring habits of cleanliness and attention, and their manners and morals are already very greatly improved.

This school, or rather the part that respects chimney sweepers' boys, is under the direction of a committee of eight persons, together with a master and mistress appointed by them, in Brick-lane, Kingston.

### OBSERVATIONS.

The above is stated for the consideration of the inhabitants of country towns; where a similar provision for these unfortunate objects might be very usefully and effectually made, with very little expence or trouble. The remedy is so simple, and so easily applied, that I flatter myself that the example need only be given, and that it will gradually be adopted in most country towns in England.

To afford that degree of attention and relief, in London, which these boys are entitled to in policy,

as well as in justice, the provisions to be made for them will be rather more complicated, and will require some consideration. But there is no great difficulty in what is to be done. Protection and education during the period of apprenticeship, and the means of livelihood when that period expires at the age of sixteen, are all the essential parts of the plan. If these were attained, even in a qualified degree, the general condition of a chimney sweeper's boy would not be a situation of more suffering and disadvantage, than that of persons in many other situations in life ; and (without any offensive comparison, I hope, I may add) not subject to more hardship or danger, than the initiation into that dignified and honourable profession, from which the British nation does now derive so much security, and such distinguished glory ; and in which the first families in this country are desirous of inscribing their children.

It would produce a material improvement in the condition of the chimney sweeper's boy, and in the character of the trade, if the practice of crying the streets \* was entirely discontinued, and if families

\* If the practice of crying the streets was discontinued, and the boys were properly inspected and protected, masters would then take no more apprentices than they had employment for ; the boys would not live upon the charity of spectators in the streets, the practice of letting them out would no longer prevail, and the masters would become respectable and comfortable, and take a regular and stationary place in society. The difficulty with regard to their getting apprentices would also be removed. Half of the climbing boys are now purchased from needy and illiterate parents.—This note is added upon the suggestion of Mr. Poster.

could be induced, as in other trades, to employ those masters, *whose characters are known in the neighbourhood*. There is nearly as much reason for sending round the bricklayer's lad, with his hod of mortar and a few bricks, screaming his master into that employment which neither his situation or character would otherwise given him any pretension to, as the loading with his bag and implements of trade, a little child already suffering by dirt, hunger, cold, and the want of domestic comfort; and sending him to disturb the streets by his cries, till some unknown person calls him in, and employs him in his trade. How much better would it be (not to notice the danger to personal and domestic security from such inmates) that respectable men, like Mr. Porter, should be settled in every neighbourhood; their characters and conduct known; and that any orders for employment should be sent the day before, so that the master might arrange his boys' time for the ensuing day, in the same manner, and with the same regularity, as in other trades; instead of their being exhausted and destroyed, in the very act of applying for employment. If, indeed, it were in the power of every master to shew such boys as Mr. Porter's, we should have a succession of hardy and intrepid lads formed for the navy, and for those situations, in which early habits of activity and enterprize are absolutely necessary.

It has been a principal object of Mr. Porter's \*

\* The following is a passage in a letter from a near relation of the lady alluded to in the beginning of this Paper,

life, that boys apprenticed to his trade should in future be protected and secured from those diseases, hardships, and dangers, from which he, by extraordinary energy of mind and body, and by the mercy of God, has been eminently preserved. With this view he has prepared, in concert with some others of his trade, a plan for its regulation; a brief detail of which will employ the remainder of this Paper.

Mr. Porter commences his statement by a general approbation of the act for the relief of climbing boys, as far as the provisions extend; but observes, that those provisions are not complied with by a majority of the masters in the trade, either as to the clothing, lodging, or food of their apprentices:—That suffering and hardship are not necessarily incident to the trade, but arise merely from the want of proper internal regulations, which would soon remedy the evil. Their distress, however, when they quit their masters, at the expiration of their apprenticeship, on attaining the age of 16 years, requires some contributory assistance from the public; they being then without money, without friends, and without the means or capacity of occupation. To provide a general system of relief, it is proposed, that the masters in the metropolis shall (with the contribution of an annual guinea from honorary members) form them-

to General Conway, in November, 1784. "I have been these two years wishing to promote my excellent Mr. Porter's plan for alleviating the woes of chimney sweepers; but never could make an impression on three people." The Earl of Orford's Letters, Vol. V. page 234.



selves into a friendly society for the protection of climbing boys during their apprenticeships; and for raising a fund to place out in occupations, at the age of sixteen, the boys of any of the members: the business of the society to be conducted by a committee, which shall be elected by and out of the honorary and other members; and from which a sub-committee of masters shall be appointed to inspect the bedding, clothing and accommodation, of the apprentices of all masters belonging to the society, and to report whether they are conformable to their indentures of apprenticeship, and to the regulations of the act; and to hear any complaints of the boys, to inquire as to apprenticeships, and to apply to the magistrates in those cases where the act of Parliament remains unexecuted.

Such is a short outline of a plan, which will soon be given more at length; and for the furtherance of which, by contributing as honorary members, the humanity, policy, and justice, of the public, will soon be applied to.

16th May, 1799.

## No. LI.

*Extract from an account of the rewards given by the  
Sussex Agricultural Society to the industrious and  
deserving poor. By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.*

AT a general meeting of the members of the Sussex agricultural society, held at Lewes on the 15th of October, 1798,\* a variety of liberal and useful premiums in agriculture were offered to the farmers in that neighbourhood. To give the detail of these, and to explain at length their beneficial effect upon agricultural improvement, might appear to be an invasion of the province of the Board of Agriculture. The rewards given by the same society, for encouraging the industry, virtue, and good habits of the poor, are so judiciously arranged, and so well directed, that I venture to submit them to the reader; trusting that they will merit attention and imitation in every part of the kingdom. They are as follows:

That fifteen guineas be given to five labourers,† who shall have brought up to the age of two years,

\* At this meeting there were present the Earl of Egremont, Lord Viscount Gage, Lord Sheffield, the Right Honourable Mr. Pelham, Sir Godfrey Webster, and most of the principal gentlemen of the county.

† The reader will find both advantage and pleasure, in perusing an account of the distribution of the rewards of the Sussex society, for the preceding year. He will find it in this and in the succeeding notes.—Those given for labourers bringing up the greatest number of children with the least proportionate parish relief, were as follows:—Five guineas to William Funnell of Barcombe; eleven children to the age of fourteen, ten of whom are now living, and

the greatest number of children, in habits of industry, with the least proportionate relief from the parish, viz.

To the most deserving	-	five guineas.
2d	-	four ditto.
3d	-	three ditto.
4th	-	two ditto.
5th	-	one ditto.

*The certificates to be signed by two or more of the principal inhabitants of the parish or parishes where the claimant has resided, during the bringing up of his family; and if any claimants are possessed of property,\* such property, with the manner in which they obtained it, shall be stated in the certificate.*

never having received any relief from the parish.—Four guineas to Charles Banks of Little Horsted; eleven children above two years, and one eighteen months old, and never having received any relief from the parish.—Three guineas to Richard Bartholmew of Kingston, near Lewes; eleven children; having received £5. relief from the parish in twenty-six years.—Two guineas to William Oxley of Heathfield; eleven children: having received £23. 5s. relief from the parish in ten years.—And one guinea to William Barns of Loughton; eight children; having received two pair of childrens' shoes relief from the parish.

It may not be unnecessary to observe, that in inquiring into the priority of claims of labourers, having brought up large families without parochial relief, it should be ascertained whether the party has not had the benefit of legacies, bequests, or property, derived from any other source, than the savings of their own industry. Some such cases were unintentionally admitted to an undue preference the first year of the distribution of the Sussex premiums; and it is not to be wondered at, that friends and neighbours should be disposed to conceal a circumstance, which might prevent the party receiving the benefit of the premium, and the neighbourhood the credit of it.—Property acquired by industry and economy should rather be considered as a commendation, than as an exclusion, to premiums of this description.

\* It is suggested that the certificate should be required in this instance to go rather further: and to specify

That ten guineas be given to four wives, or widows of labourers, who shall have done the greatest number of days' work in husbandry,\* between the 2d day of October, 1798, and the 2d day of October, 1799. Such number of days, and the different kinds of work in which the women shall have been employed, to be stated in certificates from their employers; *viz.*

To the most industrious	-	four guineas.
2d	-	three ditto.
3d	-	two ditto.
4th	-	one ditto.

That five guineas be given to two household men† servants employed in husbandry, under the age of 25 years, who shall have received wages during the greatest number of years (not less than five) in the same service, and shall produce satisfactory certificates from their masters of their continued good behaviour; *viz.*

To the first	-	three guineas.
To the second	-	two ditto.

That five guineas be given to two household men servants‡ employed in husbandry, above the

whether the claimant *has not been assisted by any legacies, bequests, or other property derived from any other source than the savings of his own industry.*

\* The following was the distribution of this premium, to labourers' wives or widows, for the preceding year:—Four guineas to Mary Blunt, widow, of Lamberhurst, 185 days.—Three guineas to Mary Carver, wife, of Tillington, 124 days.—Two guineas to Mary Taylor, wife, of Chailey, 112 days.—And one guinea to Mary May, wife, (aged 75 years) of Hatfield, 86 days.

† For this premium there was no claimant last year.

‡ This premium was given in the preceding year, to the

age of 25 years, who shall have lived the greatest number of years (not less than seven) in the same service, and shall produce satisfactory certificates from their masters, of their continued good behaviour; *viz.*

To the first - - - three guineas.

To the second - - - two ditto.

That ten guineas be given to three labourers, who shall, with the assistance of their wives, and children under ten years of age, in working by task, during the next harvest, earn the most money, in proportion to the prices at which they shall have taken their work.\* Certificates to be signed by their employers; *viz.*

To the first - - - five guineas.

To the second - - - three ditto.

To the third - - - two ditto.

two following persons:—Three guineas to James Warley, servant to Mr. T. Richman of Barcombe, 33 years.—And two guineas to James Tickner, servant to Mr. John King, of Wisborough Green, 31 years.

\* This premium was distributed, the preceding year, in the following manner:—Five guineas to Joshua Gommery, labourer to Mr. William Bridger, of Tillington) having earned, with the assistance of his wife, and four children under ten years of age, for

Reaping 22 acres, 1 rood, and 35 perches of wheat, at 7s. 6d. per acre	-	-	£ 8	8	5½
Mowing and cocking 3 acres and 1 rood of barley, at 2s. per acre	-	-	0	6	6
Cocking 2 acres and 2 roods of barley, at 1s. per acre	-	-	0	2	6
Mowing and cocking 4 acres of oats, at 2s. per acre	-	-	0	8	0

N. B. These are statute acres.

£ 9 5 5½  
Three guineas to William Tompsett, (labourer to Mr.



That five guineas be given to two women servants, in every kind of service, under the age of 25 years, who shall have received wages during the greatest number of years in the same service, and shall produce satisfactory certificates from their masters or their mistresses, of their continued good behaviour ;\* *viz.*

To the first	-	-	three guineas.
To the second	-	-	two ditto.

That ten guineas be given to four labourers in husbandry, having been married, who shall have lived the greatest number of years (not less than seven) in the same service, and who shall bring satisfactory certificates from their employers of their continued good behaviour ;† *viz.*

To the first	-	-	four guineas.
To the second	-	-	three ditto.
To the third	-	-	two ditto.
To the fourth	-	-	one ditto.

John Martin, of West Firl) having earned, with the assistance of his wife, for

Reaping 14 acres, 2 roods of wheat, at 10s. 6d.

per acre	-	-	-	£ 7 12 3
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Two guineas to Thomas Feast, (labourer to Mr. Henry Petley, of West Firl) having earned, with the assistance of his wife,

-	-	-	£ 11 0 3
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\* Distributed, the preceding year, as follow :

Three guineas to Elizabeth Whitland, servant to Mr. John Wood, of Kingston—10½ years. Two guineas to Elizabeth Woolgar, servant to Mrs. Mary Young, of Steyning—10 years.

† Distributed, the preceding year, as follows :

Four Guineas to Thomas Avis, labourer to Mr. Mockett of Firl—57 years. Three guineas to William Gorringer labourer to Mr. T. Rickman, of Barcombe—55 years. Two guineas to William Barnes, labourer to Mr. R. Sharp of Laughton—43 years. One guinea to James Chasmore labourer to Mr. J. Cripps, of Westmeson—40 years.

*No person who has received any premium from the society, for bringing up a family with the least proportionate relief from the parish, or for long continuance in one service, will be entitled to any premium on the same ground.*

*It is requested that each claimant will observe, that every particular required by the society in the foregoing resolution, must be expressed\* in the certificate.*

The premiums are not arranged so much by past merit, as with a view to future benefit. In the case of servants, it has been conceived that the re-

\* It is very essential, that what is here required with regard to the certificate, should be strictly adhered to; and it may be sometimes necessary, merely on account of defects in the certificate, to reject the more deserving candidate. The certificates will otherwise grow into a mere matter of form, and little or no attention will be paid to the truth or to the correctness of them. Some, which have been sent in to the Sussex society, have been drawn up with so little care or accuracy, as not even to distinguish the class of premiums, for which they were intended.—With regard to the premiums for household men servants employed in husbandry under the age of 25 years, it may appear extraordinary, when they apply to so numerous a class of men, that there should have been no claimant in the preceding year; but experience has shewn, that upon the commencement of these societies, there is some difficulty in inducing candidates to come forward, even from among those who on account of merit are best intitled. This may arise in part from indolence; but it is occasioned much more by diffidence. The common reasoning among the lower orders is, that there will be so many candidates with better pretensions, that it would be useless for them to take the trouble of preferring their own claims. But when a neighbour with less real merit has obtained the premium, or when the premium has been withheld for want of claimants, a numerous list of applications may be expected in the ensuing year. Still, however, the channels of information are so little open to the lower classes, that the objects of these institutions can never be fully obtained, unless the gentlemen, clergy, principal farmers, and tradesmen, that is to say the most intelligent persons in the neighbourhood, will take the trouble of making known the premiums, and explaining the

wards given to those under the age of 25, would have a more beneficial tendency than those to elder servants; as a person who has conducted himself steadily and regularly until five-and-twenty, has generally acquired, and felt the benefit of, regular and steady habits in life. The society wished also to put an end to the custom of servants changing their places every year; a custom very prevalent in all country services, and contributing much to irregular habits of life.

### OBSERVATIONS.

It cannot be too often repeated, that to promote virtue and good habits among our fellow-subjects, rewards and incitements must be made use of;—that, tho punishment and terror may deter from criminal and atrocious actions; yet, to produce in the cottager a *superior tone of conduct*,—to give existence to any degree of exertion and prudence beyond the common line of mediocrity,—and to impress in the mind, and fix indelibly in the heart, regular and principled habits of life,—reward, commendation, and encouragement, are necessary. Indeed, if we would preserve those blessings which Providence has bestowed on this favoured island, it is necessary that the higher classes of society

conditions of them, to those persons who are qualified to apply as claimants; and will assist them in forwarding their claims, and particularly in making out a proper statement of the case, and a certificate of the truth of it, in a clear and satisfactory manner.

21st June, 1799.

should be *immediately awakened to the duty* of assisting, by every exertion in their power, the prevalence of industry, prudence, morality, and religion, among the great mass of our fellow-subjects. To this desired effect, disinterested kindness, and well directed encouragement, are indispensable requisites. Without them, words and actions are but empty professions; and the poor and uneducated cottager will never *profitably* receive that instruction, which is not enforced by the example of the teacher.

It is the misfortune of this country, and it has been the calamity, and it *may* prove the destruction, of Ireland, that the different classes of society have not a sufficient bond and connection of intercourse; that they want that frequent communication of kindness and benefit, and that reciprocal good will and esteem, which (except only in the case of the worst of beings) must always result from rational creatures possessing the means of knowing, and appreciating, each other's good qualities and utility. When that does not take place, the unfortunate consequence is that neither of the parties does justice to the other. The rich do not sufficiently estimate the virtues of the poor; nor are the latter aware of the real and affectionate interest, which many of the higher classes in England feel for their concerns. But that is not all:—The rich become less useful, because they undervalue their own influence and power of doing good: and the poor are often degraded in their own opinion, and debased in character, by the persuasion, that they

neither possess, or are entitled to, the esteem and commendation of the other ranks in life.

The scarcity of wheat corn in the two preceding winters, contributed to remove, for a time, those unjust and injurious prejudices. But that effect cannot be permanent, without attention and exertion on the part of the rich: and in no way can they employ that attention and exertion better, than by bestowing publicly, and in the face of the country, praise and reward to the good conduct of the poor; and by raising a spirit of virtuous and honourable emulation among them.

To these suggestions on the encouragement to be given to the virtues of the poor, and on the intercourse of kindness which should take place between them and the rich, I shall add, upon charity in general, a few observations, which apply more peculiarly to the present subject.—In the conduct of every charitable fund, it is very essential, that we should have in view the rule adopted at Hamburgh,\*—“that if the manner, in which relief “is given, is not a spur to industry, it becomes, in “effect, a premium to sloth and profligacy.”—All the evils that *did* attend the indiscriminate charity of our religious foundations before the Reformation, when the idle and the profligate had always a monastic gate to which they might apply for that food that they ought to have procured by their own industry,—a period, when the nerves and sinews of the country were relaxed and debilitated by the warmth of misapplied charity,—all those evils must at this,

\* See the Seventh Report of the society.



and at every hour, attend the unwise and capricious administration of relief to the necessitous: and it is not merely that those who are relieved are thereby rendered indolent and helpless, but the spirit of the other poor is *blighted* by the sight of successful imposture, and their energy and vigour enervated by the tender of gratuitous and unmerited relief.

Some pious persons, in the distribution of charity, regard the motive rather than the end; not being sufficiently aware that, in removing the incitement to industry, they are frequently doing much more injury, than benefit, to the objects of their bounty.—But I forbear to enter into a detail of the evils that attend the encouragement of mendicity. There is no beggar who is not really entitled to compassion;—from the well-dressed *asker* who appeals to your benevolence with confidence and familiarity, to the wretched object which trusts for its support to the display of filth and misery, too disgusting and too offensive for the human eye to endure. And if this source of public benevolence, however misdirected, were at any period to be *hastily* checked, before there shall be opened in the metropolis, for their support and amendment, that public asylum, which both policy and charity require, and which I at present can only anticipate in expectation, numbers of these unhappy creatures must perish in the streets, or by the hands of the executioner.

Without enquiring what appropriations of benevolence are in their effects destructive of prudence

and industry among the poor, I shall proceed to enumerate those charities, the good effects whereof are unqualified and unquestionable.—These are, such as prepare and fit children for an useful situation in life ;—such as assist and promote industry, prudence, and domestic economy in the cottages of the poor ;—or which, in cases of public or private misfortune, prevent their domestic plan of economy from being destroyed ;—and lastly, such as openly and publicly offer reward and encouragement to the virtues and good conduct of the poor.

In the first rank may be placed those institutions, which contribute to educate and \* improve the rising generation, and to fit them for their station in life, and for useful employment ;—that instruct them in the great and important duties of Christianity, and form their minds at an early period to *strict and principled habits* of integrity and prudence. While these charities have their full effect, we need never despair of our country ; but may look with confidence to a renewal of strength and virtue, in the succession of honest and industrious youth.

In the second place are to be ranked those charities,† which promote the industry, health, and

\* See Reports of the society, No. 4, 20, 29, 33, 35, 36, and 37.

† Among these is to be included every thing which contributes to supply the poor with wholesome food at a fair and moderate price ;—every thing which increases their means of thriving, and affords the means of inducing them to practice economy and management in their own houses ;—every thing which preserves the health of the poor, and

well being, of the poor in their own cottages ;—such as teach and afford them the means, and regular supply, of useful and salutary occupation ;—such as improve and increase their means of life and their inducements to exertion, and assist them in habits of prudence and good management, so as to give them the full enjoyment of the fruits of their industry, and encourage and protect them in the care of their families, and in the education of their children.—To detail these objects, would be to recapitulate a considerable part of the eight preceding Reports.

There is a third species of charity, which requires some attention and discretion in the exercise, but which in its effects is extremely beneficial to the poor ;—the affording of occasional assistance\* for those contingencies, against which very few poor persons have it in their power to provide. A severe winter, an occasional scarcity of corn, or a diminution of the demand for labour, or for a particular article of manufacture, may sometimes operate as a general calamity, and sweep away all the savings

prevents contagious and other diseases amongst them ; whether in immediately stopping the progress of infection by medical care, or in preventing its progress and continuance, by white-washing and purifying the patient's habitation, by the supply of physic and medical aid in sickness, or of clothing and fuel in the extreme severity of the season, or in mitigating the severity of an epidemical complaint as by inoculation ;—in short, whatever promotes among them personal health or domestic happiness or comfort. See the Reports of the society, No. 1, 2, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 27, 30, 34, 38, 39, 42, and 48.

\* See No. 7, 30, and 39, of the Reports of the society.

that have been hoarded up by economy and self-denial, during a period of several years. A broken limb, the visitation of sickness, or some unforeseen domestic misfortune, may produce the same effect on a single family, and reduce it from a state of respectable independence to want and despair. In these cases, a small supply of relief, speedily, and kindly, and judiciously applied, may be the means of saving the father and his family, and of restoring to them the power of subsisting on their own industry.

The fourth and last species of useful charity, is that of encouraging by rewards,\* publicly offered, and impartially bestowed, the virtue, industry, cleanliness, and good habits of the poor. Such are the objects of several associations, that have been noticed in the preceding Reports; and this, in an exemplary and honourable degree, is the object of the SUSSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. To obtain the same benefit in their own neighbourhood, gentlemen have little more to do, than to copy the preceding resolutions. Similar societies, with very little variation, might be made very useful, not only in country districts, but in cities and in manufacturing towns. They might be the means of creating more reciprocity of good will and friendship between the different classes of society; of making the virtues and the distresses of the poor more known and respected; of impressing on their own minds a greater desire for character and reputation in life, and of teaching them the true value of those

\* See Society's Reports, No. 27 and 43.

gradations of rank and condition, which our Creator has thought fit to establish.—In a word, the proffer of rewards, in every part of England, for the industry and good conduct of the poor, upon a plan similar to that of the Sussex agricultural society, would have the effect of promoting union, and community of interest, between all ranks in the kingdom, and of increasing the industry, virtue, and good habits of the great mass of our fellow-subjects.

*5th April, 1799.*



## No. LII.

*Extract from an account of a charity for the relief of lying-in women and sick persons, at Tottenham High-Cross. By Mrs. WAKEFIELD.*

IN August, 1791, eight ladies of the parish of Tottenham High-Cross, in the county of Middlesex, united in a plan for the relief of their poor neighbours during the time of lying-in. They began their undertaking by subscribing three shillings and sixpence each, for the purchase of linen, and afterwards appointed one of their number treasurer and manager; and in order to supply a fund for the purpose of allowing five shillings towards the payment of a midwife, and six shillings for a nurse for each patient, they agreed to contribute sixpence a-piece weekly. The plan being approved, met with encouragement, and the number of subscribers annually increased. The following statement of the number of persons annually benefited by the charity is a clear demonstration of its success and progress. There were relieved in

1791	-	-	14 persons.
1792	-	-	35
1793	-	-	52
1794	-	-	64
1795	-	-	78
1796	-	-	79
1797	-	-	94

The society finding that the sick stood as much in

need of assistance as lying-in women, and desirous of rendering the institution as useful as possible, determined to extend the benefit to either, without distinction; and the funds having been since considerably increased, it has been resolved to provide a large number of bags of linen; and the manager is authorized to lend them, as long as the case requires, to all sick persons who are in want, throughout the parish, where the disease is not of an infectious kind.

The following are the regulations and rules of the charity.

That a set of linen be lent to every lying-in woman, or sick person, that receives a ticket from any subscriber, for one month; such set containing one pair of sheets, twelve napkins, one bed-gown, and one shirt.—That eleven shillings be paid to such lying-in woman towards defraying the expences of a midwife and a nurse.—That the same sum be laid out for each sick person, according to their wants, either in procuring necessary food, coals, or medicines; or, at the discretion of the governess, to be paid them in a weekly allowance.—And that one of the subscribers be appointed by the rest, to preside over, and manage the affairs of the charity, liable to the controul of the annual meeting of subscribers.

Every subscriber to pay\* three shillings and sixpence upon admission into the society, towards

\* This sum suffices for an established charity, but it is inadequate for the purpose of founding a new institution, on account of the advanced price of linen.

the purchase of linen ; and afterwards to continue to pay sixpence per week, to be collected annually.

—Every subscriber to receive a ticket inscribed with the name, every six months, from the governess, which such subscriber may dispose of to any object residing in the parish, whether lying-in or sick, who shall appear deserving of the bounty.

—Every patient that receives a ticket shall present it to the governess, that the name may be set down for admission.—If the patient be a lying-in woman,

the ticket to be returned to her ; that when taken ill, she may send it to the governess for a bag of linen.—No linen to be delivered without a ticket, or previous to the woman's indisposition.—None, but married women, can receive a lying-in ticket.

—No woman to keep the linen longer than a month, without leave from the governess : who shall have a discretionary power of prolonging the time, in case of unusual circumstances.—Every woman to return the linen clean, and right in number.—Any woman neglecting to observe these rules, to be incapable of receiving any future benefit from the charity.—The governess is empowered to lend bags of linen to persons of good character, who have been disappointed of obtaining tickets, if there be a sufficient quantity to supply the patients. *This is a means of considerably extending the benefits of the institution.*—None shall receive presentations to this charity but such as reside in the parish, without regard to their being a parishioner.—There shall be an annual meeting of the subscribers on the first of May ; at which time the subscriptions are to be

collected.—Those who are prevented from attending personally, are requested to send their subscriptions, in order to save trouble.—It is earnestly requested, that the subscribers will be careful that the objects of their bounty do not suffer under any infectious disease.—Sick persons whose disease is infectious, such as smallpox, fevers, &c. can only receive the appointed sum, without being assisted with linen.

The utility of this plan has already recommended it to the inhabitants of several other places. Charities similar in design, though varying in some particulars, have been established, among other places, at Cambridge, Ipswich, Colchester, Needham, Halstead, Stoke Newington, Edmonton, Cheshunt, Ware, Hertford, Woodford, Wanstead, and Walthamstow.

### OBSERVATIONS.

The most obvious advantages of this mode of administering charity, are that the relief is bestowed at a time when it is particularly wanted, and when the occasion of that necessity disables the sufferer from earning the means of procuring a supply:—that assistance is given to a great number of persons at a very small expence; for, exclusive of those who receive tickets, which entitle them to the whole benefit of the institution, the comfort of change of linen in the time of sickness is enjoyed by numbers, whose utmost frugality does not enable them to keep a sufficient stock for that purpose: and that it affords relief, but by no means precludes the

the necessity of industry and provident care against a day of trouble.

Nor let it be esteemed the least of its excellencies, that it induces women of superior rank to become acquainted with the temporary, as well as the habitual, distresses of their poor neighbours; that it invites them to visit those, to whom they have given their tickets; and personally to inspect the abodes of poverty. If the judgment of the poor may be thought worthy of consideration, there are but few plans, upon so small a scale of expence, which afford them such an acceptable relief.

A conviction, from seven years experience of its utility, that the adoption of similar institutions throughout the kingdom, would contribute to the comfort of the labourer and the mechanic, has been the motive of this communication, from a hope, that through the channel of the Reports of the Society for bettering the condition of the poor, the advantages of so useful a plan may be known and extended.

*1st Feb. 1799.*



## No. LIII.

*Extract from an account of a provision for cottagers keeping cows at Humberston, in the county of Lincoln. By THOMAS THOMPSON, Esq.*

IN the parish of Humberston, near Grimsby, there are thirteen cottagers, every one of whom has one cow with the means of keeping her, and some of them have more. The whole of the parish is the property of Lord Carrington. The land on which the cottages stand, with the little paddocks and gardens adjoining, contains in the whole about sixteen acres. Besides this, at the distance of a quarter of a mile from the village, there are about sixty acres of land appropriated to the use of the cottagers. This land is divided into two plats; one of which is pasture for the cows in summer, and the other is kept as meadow land to provide hay for them in winter. Each cottager knows his own piece of meadow land, and he lays upon it all the manure which he can obtain, in order that he may have the more hay. When one of the two plats of ground has been mown for two or three years, it is then converted into the summer pasture, and the other is used as meadow land; by which means no part of the land, occupied by the cottagers, is injured by constant mowing.

The cottagers are independent of the greater farmers; holding their cottages and lands directly of Lord Carrington, and not as undertenants. This

gives them a degree of respectability, which they would not otherwise possess. The rent, which they pay for their land, is below the farmers' rent ; but it is certain that, in the greatest part of this kingdom, the cottager would rejoice at being permitted to pay the utmost value given by the farmers, for as much land as would keep a cow, if he could obtain it at that price.

Lord Carrington is the patron of the living of Humberston ; and, upon the last vacancy he gave it to a respectable and conscientious clergyman, who has exerted himself very strenuously in the religious and moral improvement of his parishioners. He has laboured with great and good effect. The cottagers are sober and industrious : and it is not known that any man in the parish lives in a course of habitual immorality. The clergyman, with Lord Carrington's assistance, has also succeeded in establishing, for the benefit of the youth at Humberston, a parish school ; which has been of very essential service to the parish.

There is no public house \* at Humberston ; nor

\* The little alehouses, in many parts of the country, are great nuisances ; as they are the haunts of idle and dissolute persons, and tend greatly to corrupt the morals and increase the miseries of the poor. Many of the little alehouse-keepers raise contributions among their neighbours ; and under the pretence of giving a roasted sheep, or of some other entertainment, or perhaps of a cock-fight, collect numbers of the common people together, to the great prejudice of the true interests of the poor. These meetings are frequently held in harvest time, and are the cause of gaming, of drunkenness, and of those vices which are most injurious to industry and morality among the general class of our fellow subjects.

do the parishioners desire one : and on this account there are no cockfightings or gaming within the parish ; nor any drunken meetings for the purpose of settling the parish rates. The poor-rates in the parish of Humberston, which include the charges for the families of the militia, never amount to more than nine-pence or ten-pence in the pound on the rental, and generally are under six-pence.

## OBSERVATIONS.

The reduction of the poor-rates, the increase of the comforts, and the improvement of the religious and moral habits of the poor, in the parish of Humberston, may be fairly ascribed to the circumstances above stated. The publication of the letter of the Earl of Winchilsea, on the expediency and benefit of letting small quantities of land to cottagers, to enable them to keep cows, will, I trust, be of the greatest use to the country. Exclusive of the benevolence and charity of thus adding to the comforts of the poor, advantages of the utmost importance must be derived from such a system, by the land owners and farmers themselves. It is essential to every farmer, that there should be a sufficient number of labourers in his neighbourhood, to enable him to occupy his land to the greatest advantage ; otherwise he cannot afford to pay a fair and full rent for his land, and manage his farm in a manner beneficial to himself and to his landlord. Those labourers, who have no local advantage of situation, no tie of property, nor any appropriate benefit to attach them to a peculiar spot,

are inclined to wander up and down a country, without any fixed connexion ; and are always ready to change their employer for a trifling advance in their wages : whereas those cottagers, who have the advantages of property, who possess a cow, and rent a little ground, are the persons on whose assistance \* the farmer may depend in the time of necessity, and on whose honesty and ability he may implicitly rely.

I have no hesitation, however, in affirming, that where cottagers occupy arable land, it is very rarely of advantage to them, and generally a prejudice to the estate. The expence of keeping a team, swallows up all the profit of a small quantity of arable land ; and if the cottager depends on hiring horses and farming utensils, in order to work his land, the expence of them, and the occasional loss from the uncertainty of obtaining them when they are most wanted, will be more than the profits of his land will bear.

The cottager, who rents arable land, will seldom labour for other people ; but will waste a great deal of his time to little benefit to himself. Much of his labour will be unproductive, because misapplied. From want of knowledge as a farmer,

\* It is the observation of a very accurate and judicious land owner (the Earl of Winchilsea) that "cottagers, who have cows are, in general, hard working, industrious men ; that they are more contented, and more attached to their situation, and are always considered as most to be depended upon, and trusted." See the Earl of Winchilsea's letter on the advantages of cottagers renting land. Third Report of the society. B.

or from the press of necessity, he will cross-crop his ground; or, in other words, repeat his crops, till it becomes exhausted and foul, and incapable of any produce at all; and then he will complain that the land is bad and dear, and will find himself in a situation inferior to that of the labourer who has not the advantage of any land at all.

The late Abel Smith, Esquire, from motives of kindness to several cottagers on one of his estates in Nottinghamshire, let to each of them a small piece of arable land. I have rode over that estate with Lord Carrington several times since it descended to him; and I have invariably observed, that the tenants upon it, who occupy only eight or ten acres of arable land, are poor, and their land in bad condition. They would thrive more, and enjoy greater comfort, with the means of keeping two or three cows each, than with three times their present quantity of arable land; but it would be a greater mortification to them to be deprived of it, than their landlord is disposed to inflict. If you give a cottager a garden, and grass land \* on which

\* Upon this subject, and on that of corn-mills, I have much pleasure in transcribing into a note, three of this years' premiums of the Society of Arts:—No. 135. IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE LABOURING POOR. To the person who, in the year 1799, shall build the greatest number of cottages to accommodate the labouring poor, and apportion two acres of land to each cottage; the gold medal.—No. 136. To the person who, in the year 1799, shall apportion not less than two acres of land to each cottage already built upon the estate; the gold medal.—No. 215. PARISH OR FAMILY MILL. For the best mill for grinding corn for private families or parish poor; the gold medal, or forty guineas. B. 7th June, 1799.



to keep two cows, and he has ability and prudence to manage them, he will have comfort, and a considerable degree of affluence: but if you add a few acres of arable land, and make a little farmer of him, he will always be in poverty and distress.

It may not be improper to mention here, that on Lord Carrington's estate at Wintringham in Lincolnshire, there is a friendly society, one great object of which is the assisting of the cottager, in case of the loss of his cow. Every member pays a penny a week, for the purpose of raising a fund for the assistance of any cottager of the society, who may lose his cow, and be unable to buy another, or for any similar relief. Lord Carrington is a member of this club. The subscription of the landlord gives credit and support to the institution; and if, from particular circumstances, more money is wanted at times than the funds of the society will produce, the landlord is looked up to, and not in vain, for extraordinary assistance.

*1st March, 1799.*

## No. LIV.

*Extract from an account of a society, lately established at Cork in Ireland, for bettering the condition of the poor. By the Right Hon. THOMAS PELHAM.*

ON the 22d of March, 1799, a meeting of some of the most respectable characters in Cork was held, for the purpose of forming a society, in that city, for bettering the condition of the poor. It was preceded by an address to the inhabitants of the city and neighbourhood of Cork, dated the 20th of Februray, referring to what has been done by the English society, to the effects produced at Hamburgh, and to the unwearied and successful labours of Count Rumford at Munich ; and observing (what may be very general in its application) that the charities at Cork, by the mode of relief they have held out, have rather tended to encourage idleness and beggary, and have increased, instead of diminishing, the number of distressed objects in that place. Feeling the difficulties of the attempt, yet confiding in the axiom, that *tho all may not be effected, yet no well directed effort of benevolence can be entirely lost*, the author, the Reverend Thomas Dix Hincks, proposed the formation “ of a society, in imitation “ of that in London, but adapted to their own peculiar situation ; hoping that by procuring, and, “ when approved of, recommending such plans as “ have been found successful in England, they

“ may contribute to their adoption in that city,  
“ and neighbourhood.”

At the meeting, held on the 22d of March, it was resolved, that the society be immediately formed; and that the general object of it should be to collect information respecting the circumstances and situation of the poor in that city and neighbourhood, and the most effectual means of meliorating their condition; and to communicate this information to the public, in order that any comforts and advantages which the poor enjoy in other parts of the British empire, might be extended to that part in as great a degree as peculiar circumstances will admit. And as it had been found impossible, notwithstanding the large sums bestowed, to relieve all the distress that might occur in that large city, it appeared desirable that particular attention should be paid to all plans of economy, so as to extend the benefits of charitable institutions to as great a number as possible.

It was further resolved, that “ the society do  
“ ever keep in view the principle, that the best  
“ relief the poor can receive, is that which comes  
“ from themselves; and that the most effect-  
“ tual method of improving their condition is by  
“ the encouragement of industry and prudence.—  
“ That the business of the society be transacted  
“ by a committee chosen annually.— That this  
“ committee be impowered to correspond with any  
“ other society, having a similar object; to pur-  
“ chase any books, which are calculated to give  
“ them information on the subject; and to print

“ any plan, which they think deserving of the  
“ public attention.—That the committee be also  
“ impowered to offer such rewards for good con-  
“ duct, as the state of the funds will admit, so as  
“ to awaken the attention of the poor, to what  
“ will promote their best interests.—That the  
“ committee consist of a president, five vice pre-  
“ sidents, and twenty-six members, including the  
“ treasurer and secretary, to be chosen at an an-  
“ nual meeting of the subscribers. That no plan  
“ be printed, or any expence incurred, without the  
“ approbation of at least five members of the com-  
“ mittee assembled in a regular manner.—That  
“ the committee meet once each month for the  
“ transaction of business.—That a sub-committee,  
“ chosen out of the general committee, and con-  
“ sisting of seven members of the general com-  
“ mittee, do meet once a week, (that week ex-  
“ cepted in which the general committee assembles)  
“ for the purpose of examining reports, and pre-  
“ paring plans for the inspection of the general  
“ committee.—That every subscriber be entitled  
“ to attend the meetings of the general or sub-  
“ committee, and to give his opinion, but not to  
“ have a vote on the decision of any question.—  
“ And That every member subscribe half a guinea,  
“ annually, to defray the expences of the society.”

The number of members already exceeds 120,  
and includes the most respectable inhabitants of  
the city of Cork. The Lord Bishop of Cork is the  
president. The vice presidents are, Dr. Moylan  
(the titular bishop of Cork) the Honourable Dean

St. Lawrence, Sir Samuel Rowland, Mr. Serjeant Chatterton, and Mr. Anderson.

One of their first objects is to encourage the establishment of friendly societies, upon a general plan which may require very few, if any, meetings of the subscribers. For this purpose the increase of honorary members, and the holding out every possible advantage to the other members, have appeared to be necessary.

### OBSERVATIONS.

Establishments of this nature merit, in the present situation of Ireland, every degree of attention and consideration from the friends of humanity and of civil order. The success and progress of endeavours to meliorate the condition of the great mass of our fellow-subjects in that kingdom, appear to be essential, not only to the peace and prosperity of that part of the empire, but, at the present crisis, of the utmost importance to the welfare of Great Britain : and it is most honourable to the city of Cork, that in a measure of this sort, they have led the way, and set the example.

It is essential to the permanent peace and welfare of Ireland (I am repeating what has been said before \* in another place) to introduce among the poor in that kingdom, a proper and useful system of education,—habits of cleanliness,—a taste for the comforts of life, as applied to food, habitation, and clothes ;—and to promote the reciprocity of kindness and mutual good will among the different

\* See Eighth Report, page 143.



classes of life ; so as to give the mass of the people more interest in the established order of society, and more incitement to industry and exertion, and to connect them by a closer and more secure bond with the welfare and happiness of Ireland.

This can only be effected by the co-operation of the other ranks of society in that kingdom : and such a co-operation would be very greatly promoted by the formation of institutions, like that which reflects so much honour on the patriotism and public spirit of the city of Cork ;—a society, which does not endeavour to engage the affections of the poor by encouraging their prejudices, or by feeding their vices ; but by real and well directed exertions in promoting the welfare and industry of the inhabitants, and in increasing the happiness and prosperity of the country.

It must give infinite satisfaction, to see a Protestant and a Roman Catholic bishop uniting in a friendly and benevolent co-operation, for the religious and moral improvement, and for the temporal welfare and comfort of their united flocks. If this example is followed throughout Ireland, it may produce the best effects, not only in meliorating the character and condition of the poor, but in removing religious prejudices, and in promoting Christian charity, between the Catholics and Protestants in that country.—I shall conclude this paper by expressing my earnest wish, that other cities and districts in Ireland may be awake to their true interests and most important duties, and that

there may be speedily formed, in every part of that kingdom, establishments similar to that of the SOCIETY FOR BETTERING THE CONDITION AND INCREASING THE COMFORTS OF THE POOR IN THE CITY OF CORK.

*1st June, 1799.*

## No. LV.

*Extract from an account of the institution, for applying science to the common purposes of life, so far as it may be expected to affect the poor. By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.*

IN January, 1799, a committee was appointed by the society for bettering the condition of the poor, to confer with Count Rumford on the formation of an institution; which, besides having a general view to the benefit of arts and manufactures, and to the advancement of taste and science,\* in this country, should specifically direct itself to the improvement of the MEANS OF INDUSTRY AND OF DOMESTIC COMFORT AMONG THE POOR. Tho the society has had reason to flatter itself that considerable benefit had been diffused among the general mass of the people by its publications, yet difficulties have impeded the progress of any considerable melioration in the diet and domestic habits of the poor; and there appears very little prospect of those difficulties being removed, until a centre of action can be fixed, to which persons may apply for examples,—for models,—and for engravings, accompanied by printed instructions; without being

\* A library, is forming, of books presented by some of the subscribers; and it is proposed to procure a regular supply of the periodical publications of Europe, particularly those of a scientific kind. These and the library are intended for a common room for the use of the subscribers.

any longer compelled implicitly to rely on the talents, the docility, and the conscientious moderation, of the different tradesmen, who may be employed to make and sell them.

It appeared very evident that an establishment of this nature, if on a scale calculated to be extensively useful, must embrace too great a variety of objects, and be far too interesting and too important, to be annexed to the society for the poor, or to any other existing society. The committee therefore was of opinion that, after they had obtained from Count Rumford the original sketch or outline of the plan, and had engaged him to take an active and leading part in the conduct and execution of it (their own members giving their individual support to the measure) nothing further remained to be done on the part of the society.

A convenient house\* was proposed to be engaged for the purpose of lectures and experiments, and for a public exhibition of all such new and useful inventions and improvements, as are applicable to the common purposes of life; and especially those which tend to increase the conveniences and comforts of mankind, and to promote domestic economy and useful industry. In the priority of introduction it was proposed that regard should be had to the degree of public utility; and particularly as they might benefit the general mass of the people.

Of the subjects of the lectures, there are a few,

\* The managers have since purchased a large and roomy house, the late Mr. Mellish's, in Albemarle-street.

which appear peculiarly to apply to the poor ; such as those on heat, on the principles of the warmth of clothing, and on the effect of the different temperatures of the air on the human body ; but in fact there is not one of the subjects, in which the poor, as well as the rich, will not be interested ; either on account of their effect in reducing the price, or in increasing the amount, of the conveniences of life.

The models and inventions, in which the poor are most immediately concerned, will be those which may promote economy in food and fuel, and tend to correct and purify the air in cottages, and also in workhouses, hospitals, manufactories, and in all public buildings ; and which may furnish means and instruments of industry, on a cheap and simple construction ; so as to afford the cottager and his family thriving and healthful occupation at home during bad weather, or at times when proper employment is not to be obtained abroad. The supply of such means and instruments of industry has been long, and anxiously, desired by the friends of the poor. Many heavy and solitary hours might then be occupied with pleasing employment ; and the cottager would thereby be enabled to educate his children in those *regular and even habits of industry and attention*, which, when securely and permanently acquired, will afford them support and satisfaction through life.

The dissemination of these improvements and inventions is extremely wanted by the poor. Nothing can be more comfortless than their present system



of diet in many parts of England: nothing more wasteful than their application of fuel for warming and tempering the air in their cottages; that being an article, the too general want of which is the source of those petty pilfering habits among the poor, which often lead to atrocious crimes. The assisting and encouraging the domestic economy and management of the cottager, and the promotion of his comfort so as to give him more benefit and enjoyment from the means of life which his situation in society affords him, and the improvement of the general system of those public buildings with which the poor are concerned, will be among the most useful and important objects of the models to be exhibited at the institution. These will consist of improved fire-places and kitchens, and of flues and *louvres* for supplying rooms either with tepid or fresh air; so as to produce a considerable saving in the quantity of food and fuel consumed, either in cottages, or in public establishments; and materially to increase the health and well-being of those of our fellow-subjects, whose employment or situation obliges or induces them, to continue the greater part of their time in close and crowded rooms.

In order generally to diffuse these improvements with as much advantage, and at as small an expence, as may be, it is proposed that there shall be small models of these inventions, at a very cheap price; with engravings, and explanatory descriptions of the mode of completing them. These will be sold at the institution; and they will be very use-

ful to those whose distance, or situation, may make it impracticable, or inconvenient, to employ the persons recommended by the institution. To other persons the adoption of these improvements will be made extremely easy; as they may be, at all times, examined in actual use; and the price, the means, and time of obtaining them, will be precisely fixed and ascertained.

The business of the institution is conducted by a committee of managers; with the assistance of a committee of visitors, a treasurer, a secretary, a law counsel, a solicitor, and two surveyors; all of whom not only are contributors to the funds, but give their assistance gratuitously, and without any salary or emolument.

The funds of the institution arise from annual subscriptions of two guineas a year, which entitle the subscriber to personal admittance to the lectures and exhibition;—subscriptions of ten guineas each, which give him the same admission for life;—and subscriptions of fifty guineas each, which give an hereditary property\* in the institution, and two perpetual transferrable tickets of admission. The lists of annual and life subscribers, are open indiscriminately to all; and it is hoped that there will be few persons, of any mediocrity of fortune, who will not make a point of contributing, in some way or other, to a national establishment, so beneficial

\* The proprietors are admitted, or elected, by the managers; and consist of persons, who have deposited, or whose friends are responsible for, a subscription of fifty guineas.

and important. Tho the charter is not yet obtained, and the institution may be considered as only in its infancy, the subscriptions already exceed £8000.

### OBSERVATIONS.

It is not very easy to calculate what may be eventually the progress of the institution, or what its influence of the condition, of the poor. If it is followed up with the same zeal and attention on the part of the conductors, and it receives the support it merits from the public, its effects must be extremely beneficial and important. For, without adverting to the general advantage of a new species of employment and amusement being offered to the higher classes of life, and science and useful occupation being brought into some degree of fashion, it must be apparent to every one, that, without some such means, the poor can never receive all that benefit and assistance, which the efforts and co-operation of many are now directed to procure for them; and that the improvement of the domestic comforts and means of industry in the cottage, the promotion of the health, the economy, and the well-being of the inhabitants of poorhouses, hospitals, manufactories, and other public establishments, will never be effectually obtained, without such an establishment as the institution.

*1st June, 1799.*

## No. LVI.

*Extract from a further account of apprenticing poor children. By the Rev. JOHN BREWSTER.*

IN addition to the Report, No. 20, which I had the honour of communicating to the society last year, I send an account of the *particular trades* to which the children were apprenticed; in order that the quantum of apprentice-fee may be better known for different trades fit for poor children. I make no addition to the numbers of the former list, as that seems full enough for the purpose.

	Sex.	Trade.	Term.	Fee.
No. 1.	male	taylor -	6 yrs.	£. s. d. 2 19 6
2.	female	service -	1 year	2 19 6
3.	male	comb-maker	7 yrs.	2 19 6
4.	female	service -	1 year	1 1 0
5.	male	farmer's servant	till 21	2 19 6
6.	ditto	shoemaker	7 yrs.	4 0 0
7.	ditto	ditto - -	7 yrs.	2 19 6
8.	ditto	{ ditto&farmer's servant }	till 21	7 16 0
9.	ditto	ditto clothed	—	1 1 0
10.	ditto	ditto -	7 yrs.	3 3 0
11.	ditto	bricklayer -	6 yrs.	2 19 6
12.	ditto	shoemaker -	7 yrs.	1 14 6
13.	ditto	sailor -	6 yrs.	2 19 6
14.	ditto	stonemason -	7 yrs.	2 19 6
15.	ditto	sailor clothed	—	0 10 6
16.	female	service -	till 21	2 19 6
17.	male	taylor -	7 yrs.	1 1 0
18.	ditto	farmer's servants	7 yrs.	2 19 6
19.	ditto	taylor -	till 21	2 19 6

The variation in the apprentice fee arises from different circumstances ; either of health in the child, ability in the parent, or from the nature of the occupation to which the child is placed ; and in some instances the child is boarded by the master, and sometimes by the parent.

### OBSERVATIONS.

Since the publication of the former Report on this subject, the plan has been adopted by the trustees of the charity-school at Stockton-upon-Tees ; and, I have a pleasure in adding, with good success. The school consists of about forty scholars of different sexes. Seven of these, two boys and five girls, have been discharged in the course of the last year, and placed either at trades or services at an expence of 40 shillings each : one boy as a writer to an attorney, another as an apprentice to a wool comber ; and one girl as an apprentice to a glover, and four in service.

The adoption of this plan has been attended with the best consequences to the school. It has occasioned a more regular attendance, and better behaviour, in the children ; as these are considered as indispensably necessary, if they expect this reward. The charity-school is, in some measure, supplied with scholars from the Sunday school ; and the master informs me, that this new regulation has a considerable influence even upon that.

In towns, where funds of this nature may be



made sufficiently ample, it appears to me that the institution may have a further beneficial effect, by rescuing from a menial trade, or occupation, a child of particular abilities.

30th Nov. 1798.

## No. LVII.

*Extract from a further account of the improvements in the House of Industry in Dublin. By the Right Hon. THOMAS PELHAM.*

THE acting governors of the house of industry in Dublin have made a second Report of their proceedings, by which it appears that (notwithstanding the confusion which must necessarily have attended the rebellion in Ireland, during great part of last summer) the zeal, the activity, and the diligence of the governors of this institution have not abated; but that improvements, which they had commenced and suggested in the preceding year, have been confirmed and realized in the last. They have stated to the Parliament of Ireland the means by which they have encouraged the industry, and increased the comfort, of those who have been consigned to their care,

They have augmented the former allowance of 2s. in the shilling earned by the poor in the house, to 8d.; and the payment of this quota is in a coin, current only in the house; which has effectually prevented the purchase of spirituous liquors, and is laid out in extra provisions and clothes, at a shop established within the house, upon the plan of the village shops recommended in a former Report of this Society. The adult poor have no clothing, but such as they procure by their industry: and they are better clad than formerly.—A workshop with 12 stocking frames has been erected, in which a

number of females have been employed ; and it is well observed by the governors, “ that the employing females in this manufacture, and in others of a like kind, where an expert hand is more requisite than masculine strength, should be encouraged.”

The children of both sexes are apprenticed for seven years, to those who superintend their instruction, with a reservation to the Board, of the power of assigning over their indentures at the end of the two first years, to such manufacturers as shall propose to take them for the remaining five. The persons who instruct the children have at present a fixed salary. It is intended to give them one-third of the earnings ; to lay out one-third in clothing the children, and the remainder to be expended in premiums.—The hospital is open to all the poor of Dublin ; and it appears, that, in the year 1798, out of 1659 patients admitted, 1443 were restored to health, and to their families ; and that of 66 lunatics, 47 have been cured.—The walls of the sick wards are washed every month with lime, and it is proposed to have a detached house exclusively for fevers.

“ With a view to better the condition of the poor of Dublin in general, and to prevent the funds of the house of industry from being incumbered by unnecessary claims, the board of governors determined to open a public kitchen, or soup shop, detached from the house of industry.” Their addresses to the public, and their proceedings respecting their public kitchen,

are worthy of applause and imitation. The success is proved by the numbers that have been benefited by it: 6431 persons were supplied with food from this kitchen,\* between the 4th day of February, the day of opening, and the 28th of February, the date of their Report.

### OBSERVATIONS.

It is to be observed, that this institution differs very materially from any poorhouse, or other institution, in Great Britain, both in its object, its government, and its resources. In Ireland there are no poor laws, or local taxes, for the support of the poor. This institution was intended for the purpose of providing employment, and for the maintenance of the poor of Dublin, and for the punishment of the vagrants and beggars who infested the streets of that city. The government was vested by act of Parliament in a certain number of public officers; the Mayor and Aldermen of Dublin, and many other individuals; some of whom were named in the act, and others elected: and

\* A public kitchen had been previously tried with success at Cork. The distribution made at Dublin, amounted to 12 ounces of bread and a quart of soup; which was given *gratis* to any poor person who applied, and who was not in receipt of relief from the House of Industry. Inconveniences, however, had attended the mere donation; and in truth, that which is indiscriminately given is never duly valued. It was thought better that the soup and bread should be sold at a reduced price; so that the poor might receive it by tickets given them by their more opulent neighbours, and that the working mechanic might be supplied at a very moderate rate; that of two-pence for half a pound of bread and a quart of soup. This has been accordingly done.

considerable grants have been annually made by Parliament for its support. The institution certainly did not at first answer the expectation of the public, but fell into discredit.

The statement of these circumstances will render the Report of the acting governors more intelligible, and, by explaining their situation, enhance the merit of their exertions.

*5th June, 1799.*



## No. LVIII.

*Extract from a further account of the House of Recovery at Manchester. By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.*

THE benefits attending the establishment of the Board of Health at Manchester, are so important, and the measure itself so exemplary, that I flatter myself that some further account of the progress of that charity may be acceptable to the reader.—The idea was originally suggested by Dr. Ferriar, in the First Volume of his valuable work,\* entitled “Medical Histories and Reflections;” a work which, to much medical knowledge, adds some very interesting information for the friends of the poor.

A very destructive fever had taken place near Manchester, at the latter end of the year 1795; the infection having originated with a single individual. This seemed to give an opportunity of proposing the immediate establishment of a house of recovery; and Dr. Ferriar was applied to, to prepare a plan and proposals for that purpose. This he accordingly did, in the beginning of January, 1796; shewing the impossibility of stop-

\* The reader will find it well worth his while to refer to Dr. Ferriar's work, for two Essays introductory to the proposal of the Board of Health, and an Address to the Poor, which was written immediately after its establishment.

ping the progress of infectious fevers in manufacturing towns, but by the removal of the person infected, and sometimes of the whole family, into a clean airy house, till their clothes might be purified, and their own habitations cleaned and whitewashed, and sweetened by slacking quicklime on the floors. For the detail of the plan, and for many curious and satisfactory observations on the subject, I must refer the reader to the address\* itself, which I cannot venture to abridge or epitomize.

The first object was to check the prevalence of infectious fevers. They engaged four small adjoining houses in Portland-street, near the infirmary, and detached from other buildings. These were fitted up and furnished at the expence of about £200. and opened in May, 1796, upon an estimated expenditure, including house rent, of nearly £400. a year. Dr. Ferriar, at the request of the committee, drew up the regulations; which, with an account of the first cases admitted into the house, will be found in the first volume of the Reports of the society. A statement of some further circumstances attending the progress of this useful charity will occupy the remainder of this paper.

I visited the house of recovery with very cordial satisfaction, on the 2d of August, 1798. There were then 19 patients in the house. Their apartments appeared to be as airy, as clean, and as comfortable as could be wished. The upper floors are laid together, so as to form four large wards; and

\* Medical Histories and Reflections, vol. iii. page 46.

each of the front rooms below will contain two beds, so as to accommodate in the whole 28 patients conveniently. The rooms on the ground floor are appropriated to the convalescents; and to the use of the servants, who consist of a head nurse and three other nurses; occasional assistance being hired, when necessary. The wards are furnished with iron besteads, without curtains, and with ticks filled with straw, which is changed at proper periods. The mode of removing the sick into the house is in a sedan chair kept in an outbuilding for that purpose.

When patients are admitted into the house, a flannel dress is provided for them, and their own clothes are carried into the yard, to be washed, scoured and ventilated. During their convalescence they wear the dress of the house; which consists of a jacket and trowsers for the men, and of a wrapping gown and petticoat for the women. part of a vacant piece of ground, adjoining to the houses, is inclosed with a wall for the purpose of washing and airing the clothes of the patients. At the time of discharging them their own clothes are returned to them perfectly clean, and they rejoin their families, and resume their occupations, without the hazard of communicating infection to others.

To so great a degree have contagious fevers been reduced,\* since the establishment of the house

\* In the former extract I stated the extraordinary diminution that had taken place in the bills of mortality at

of recovery, that the limits of the house are now extended to the whole of Manchester and its extensive suburbs, and to every part of the vicinage, for two miles round, from whence a fever patient can be safely removed. The number of home patients of the infirmary at Manchester has also, in consequence, been gradually diminished. There were admitted on the physicians' books during the year, ending 1st June, 1796 - 2880

Ditto in the year ending June, 1797, being

the first year of the house of recovery

being opened - - - 1759

Ditto in the year ending June, 1798, - 1564

During the spring and summer of the preceding year, contagious fevers of an alarming nature had appeared in different parts of the town and neighbourhood. By removing, however, the patient into the house of recovery, the extension of the fever was in every instance prevented. The account of the house for one year, ending the 31st of May, 1798, at which time 710 patients had been admitted, is as follows :

Manchester, since the opening of the house of recovery. An additional proof, of a singular nature, appears in the last year's accounts of the overseers of the poor ; in which the charge for deceased paupers' coffins is £100. 16s. It used to be half as much again. The accounts for four years stand thus :

	Number of coffins.	Charge.
One year to May, 1795	- 538	- £149 10 0
Ditto to May - 1796	- 540	- 153 6 6
Ditto to May - 1797	- 387	- 111 3 0
Ditto to May - 1798	- 364	- 100 16 0

Cured and discharged	-	-	300
Dead	-	-	16
Remained then in the house	-	-	23
			<hr/>
			339

*Account for another year, to 31st May, 1799.*

Cured and discharged	-	-	364
Dead	-	-	24
Remained in the house, 31st May, 1799.	-	-	11

To a poor creature who has been languishing in a cold, damp cellar, or in a garret exposed to the injuries of the weather, amidst the neglect and confusion of a wretched family,—to such a patient a clean bed, a quiet ward, an attentive nurse, and the frequent visits of the physician, are of most potent efficacy. To these causes it must be imputed that, upon a return of the epidemic fever of 1797, of 149 dangerous cases received from the beginning of May to the beginning of October, only four patients died.

Of the benefits of the house of recovery, it is one of no small consequence, that the owners of cotton mills are now induced to pay a more scrupulous attention to the health of their workpeople; and that their buildings are, in general, kept cleaner and better ventilated. A salutary impression has also been made on the minds of the poor, respecting the utility of cleanliness in their houses. The idea of fever comprehends, among them, that of ruin to their circumstances, and desertion by their neighbours. It may therefore be expected, that they will catch at every means within their reach



to avoid so dreadful an evil : and when they find that a public charity extends its care to them so far, as to whitewash their houses, when the physicians report it to be necessary, they must feel the propriety of attending more to this object.

## OBSERVATIONS.

I shall conclude this extract by copying the concluding remarks of Dr. Ferriar's account \* of the house of recovery ; an account, which I recommend to the reader's perusal, as the means of detecting the use I have made of it in this compilation.—“ Institutions of this nature are particularly adapted to manufacturing towns ;† but, I believe, there is not a town in the kingdom, containing 4000 inhabitants, which would not be greatly benefited by similar establishments. Abuses and errors prevail every where among the lower classes of society, which require both instruction and assistance from the more enlightened. Much misery, much actual suffering are unavoidable in all states of society ; yet, when the important interests

\* Medical Histories and Reflections, vol. iii. p. 43.

Other readers beside medical men would find much amusing and useful information in these three volumes. There is a very interesting paper in the third volume, of the treatment of the dying, p. 191.

† I have great satisfaction in being able to state to the reader, that the establishment of a house of recovery is now projecting and forming at Waterford in Ireland ; and that at Bolton, a large manufacturing town in Lancashire, they are adopting the plan suggested by Dr. Ferriar in the first volume of his Medical Histories and Reflections, and are preparing to build public lodging houses for the poor, to prevent the spreading of infectious disorders.

of the poor are properly watched over, their calamities admit of great alleviation. The facts detailed in this paper have been collected, to shew by how simple a method, and with how slight an expence, one of the chief scourges of mankind may be disarmed of a great part of its terrors. Other towns, I trust, will perceive it to be their interest to adopt measures of the same kind. Reliance may be placed in our experience here ; for I have been less desirous to celebrate the triumph of art, than that of humanity."

*7th June, 1799.*

## No. LIX.

*Extract from an account of a society at Wendover,  
for encouraging prudence and industry. By the  
Reverend JOSEPH SMITH.*

UPON perusing the account of the benevolent and excellent establishment of Sunday societies for the aged poor at Winston and Bishops Auckland, I considered it as incumbent on me, at least to endeavour to form something of a similar nature in my own parish of Wendover: but at that time of the year (the latter end of autumn) I found it impossible to do any thing effectual and useful for that purpose in a country parish. I therefore deferred it till a more favourable season. Early in the spring, having first secured the co-operation and assistance of two very worthy and charitable families in the parish, I visited the cottagers, and pointed out to them, in as strong terms as I could, the benefit and comfort which they would derive from such a society; but I found, in my own parish, an insurmountable objection to a meeting of elderly persons, at each other's houses, on a Sunday evening; an objection arising from a circumstance, that the labourers are scarcely any of them resident within the town, but are dispersed in their habitations in all directions, over a very extensive parish, containing a square of about 5 miles. From the different parts of such a district, it would be hardly practicable for the aged and infirm to attend alter-

nately at each other's dwellings : and there seemed to me to be objections to any common room, in a central situation, being applied for that purpose ; or indeed that any fixed place of meeting, except the church, should regularly be used, for reading and expounding the Holy Scriptures.

I therefore very reluctantly gave up, for the present, the attempt to engage the old people to meet systematically on the Sunday evening, at each other's houses, for their mutual comfort, and religious improvement ; and I have confined my endeavours at the commencement, to inducing, in all my poorer neighbours, a habit of saving some part of their earnings, during that period of the year when they could best spare it, against a time when they would most want it. To the poor, therefore, both male and female, and of all ages, I proposed that part of the plan only ; as the means of laying up, from the excess of the most productive part of the year, that which might procure them comfort and relief at the season the least productive, and the most expensive ;\* and, in order to make it generally known, I employed the schoolboys, at the writing school in the parish, to copy out the following proposals, for a weekly contribution of money during the summer months, to be repaid them with a considerable increase, the addition of one-third at least, at the end of the year.

\* It is pleasing to reflect how much the Wendover cottager has been benefited in this season, and the parish exonerated, by what has been done in this instance ; not by precluding his claim to relief, but by diminishing the call for it. B. 23d Dec. 1799.

“ Friendly Society for the encouragement of the  
 “ prudent and industrious labourers of the pa-  
 “ rish of Wendover.

“ *Upon the first day of the week let every one of you*  
 “ *lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him.—*

“ Cor. ch. xvi. v. 2.

“ In order to encourage the industrious poor of  
 “ the parish of Wendover, during the summer  
 “ months, in which they can earn most, to lay up  
 “ something against the time of need, T. Lovell,  
 “ Esq. F. P. Bingham, Esq. and the Revd. Joseph  
 “ Smith, Vicar, have agreed to add, as a gift, one-  
 “ third of whatever sum any such poor person  
 “ shall lay up by weekly payments, or otherwise,  
 “ during the summer ; the whole of which, toge-  
 “ ther with such addition, the person shall receive  
 “ back again at Christmas. Either of the above  
 “ gentlemen will receive at their houses all such  
 “ weekly sums, whether 2*d*, 3*d*, 6*d*, or more, and  
 “ deposit the same in a box provided for that pur-  
 “ pose, and keep an exact account of the same in  
 “ a book. It is proposed that Sunday morning  
 “ be the time of making the payments ; because  
 “ among the other duties of that day, the labourer  
 “ can then best spare time to look forward for the  
 “ future comfort of his family ; and because they  
 “ who have attended their duty at church, after  
 “ having paid in their weekly sixpence to accu-  
 “ mulate for their families, will feel the less in-  
 “ clination to spend another sixpence, idly at the  
 “ alehouse. At Christmas the distribution will be  
 “ made ; that is to say, for every three shillings



“ paid in, not less than four shillings shall be re-  
 “ turned ; and so in proportion. Further atten-  
 “ tion and consideration will be paid to those who  
 “ have made their payments regularly, and who  
 “ have been regular in their duties at church. Any  
 “ person may receive back his or her own money  
 “ at any time before Christmas ; but without any  
 “ addition thereto. It is not intended that this act  
 “ of prudence in the poor should preclude them  
 “ from parish relief, in case of sickness, or in case  
 “ of want of work, during severe weather ; but it  
 “ is meant to enable them to purchase a warm  
 “ garment, half a load of wood, or any other do-  
 “ mestic comfort they may want at the most incle-  
 “ ment season. The donations and friendly com-  
 “ munications of any of the parishioners to this  
 “ undertaking, will be thankfully received by  
 “ Mr. Lovell, Mr. Bingham, or Mr. Smith, and  
 “ entered in a separate book.”

I had copies of this paper placed on the church  
 doors, and distributed in the parish. The boys  
 also, who had received a trifling gratuity for making  
 the copies, contributed very much to make the terms  
 known to their parents and connections. We gave  
 notice of receiving contributions on the first Sunday  
 in May.—The labourers have embraced the offer  
 held out to them, in a manner extremely gratifying ;  
 the society already consisting of near sixty sub-  
 scribing labourers, who bring their subscriptions  
 very regularly after morning service ; none less than  
 sixpence, very many of them a shilling.

## OBSERVATIONS.

The above may be deserving of attention in those country parishes, which, like Wendover, are not capable of receiving the entire benefit of the plan, adopted in the bishoprick of Durham. It is certainly of great importance, to induce habits of frugality and foresight, among the poor. These good qualities are rarely unaccompanied by the other virtues; and when they are wanting, there can be little hope of strict moral or religious character among men, who are to subsist on the produce of their daily labour.

There is a peculiar advantage in the Wendover society, that neither time, nor money, is expended in alehouse meetings. There are no incidental charges to exhaust the common purse. There is a sure and certain benefit to the members; and there exists no expence to diminish the amount of it. Friendly societies, tho very deserving of encouragement, are not always equal and certain in their effects. *If not conducted properly, they may degenerate into drunken meetings; they may be disgraced by fraud, be directed by a party, and become the instruments of sedition.* From these inconveniences the society at Wendover is exempt. Their one entertainment will be only an annual addition given to their family dinner at home, on Christmas day.

A great advantage of this and of some other similar establishments (besides that important one of uniting persons together for a common and useful purpose) is, that they contribute to make the rich

and the poor more known to, and more connected with, each other; and to give those who are desirous of making a proper use of their property, an opportunity of appreciating correctly the character and situation of most of the cottagers in their neighbourhood.

The establishment of this society will, I hope, be of much greater advantage to the members, than the mere amount of the addition to their own savings; and will be the cause of their beginning the new year not only *happily*, but *wisely*. If they are then as sensible, as I have a confidence they will be, of the good effects of their own frugality and prudence, it will be my endeavour to establish the society on a permanent footing, and with as much improvement and benefit to the members as I can.

8th Nov. 1799.

## No. LX.

*Extract from a further account of the advantages of cottagers keeping cows. By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.*

A LATE visit into Rutlandshire has given me an opportunity of acquiring more minute and correct information, respecting the circumstances and situation of the cottagers keeping cows, in the four parishes of Hambledon, Eggleton, Greetham, and Burley on the Hill. I give the result of my enquiries; and I give it with more precision and detail than I otherwise should, as I am very desirous of enabling land-owners to ascertain whether, in their own peculiar instances, it will not answer for them to follow the example of what has been done in that neighbourhood. At the same time I beg leave to anticipate the observation, that in arable countries, where there is a scarcity of grass land, and in those districts where, from vicinage or a peculiar market, grass land bears a rent above its intrinsic value, it may not be practicable to supply cottagers with pasture for a cow, without some sacrifice on the part of the landlord.

Among the tenants of this part of the estate, there are 80 cottagers who keep cows. Of those who possess cows, there are 22, each of whom has only one cow; 35 who have each 2 cows, 13 who have 3, 7 who have 4, and 3 who have 5 cows each; making in all 174 cows. Of these cottagers

about a third part have all their land in severalty ; the rest of them have the use of a cowpasture in common with others ; most of them possessing a small homestead, adjoining to their cottage ; every one of them having a good garden, and keeping one pig at least, if not more. Without any exception they pay for their land the same rent\* as a farmer would, and not more.

The estate is tithe-free.—In Hambledon there is a close of 114 acres, which is let in 108 cowgates, at one guinea each ; of these, 74 are let to cottagers, and the remaining 34 (not having been as yet applied for by cottagers) are for the present let to farmers. The tenants have the right of feeding, each four sheep, instead of a cow, for each cowgate ; and the farmers generally so use their holdings, which is more for their own convenience, as well as for the general benefit of the pasture. Each of the cottagers has also an acre or more of homestead near his cottage, for which he pays a farmer's rent.

At Eggleton there is a cow-pasture of only 30

\* I add a note, on the suggestion of Mr. Kent of Fulham, who had the merit of laying the case of the English cottager before the public several years ago, in a very useful publication, intitled *Hints to Gentlemen of Landed Property*. "The obvious reason (Mr. Kent observes) why the cottager succeeds better with his cow upon Lord Winchilsea's estate, is, that he is not charged a higher rent for his land than a farmer would be. But that this is far from being the case in general : so far, indeed, that there is not one instance in ten, of those in which a cottager possesses the means of keeping a cow, that he does not obtain the land from the farmer at second hand, and at a rent at least double of what he ought to pay." *2d. Nov. 1799.*



acres, which is let in 26 cowgates, each at 30 shillings. These are all occupied by cottagers, who have also small homesteads near their houses, to supply them with hay.—In the parish of Burley, the mode of providing for some of the cottager's cows is different: a close of 11 acres and a half is divided into two equal parts, and the whole jointly occupied by four cottagers. One half is every alternate year held in four several parts by a marked boundary, each mowing his own part for hay; the other half is a cowpasture for the four cottagers. They have each a right of putting in a cow and two sheep in the pasture part, during the summer, and of feeding a cow and four sheep upon the whole in the winter. The benefit of the sheep feeding they can let to a farmer at a guinea and a half a year. Besides this, they have grass and hay for one cow; for rent they pay £4. 10s. a year each, and in poors' rates and other levies, 5s. a year, making in the whole £4. 15s.; from which, after deducting £1. 11s. 6d. (which their sheep feeding is worth) there remains £3. 3s. 6d. rent and taxes, for the support of their cow.

The accommodation that the cottager has for his cow in Greetham, is not so beneficial to him. A pasture field of 35 acres of indifferent land, worth about 10s. an acre, is held as a joint pasture by 14 cottagers; each of whom has a right to pasture a cow in it. For their winter provision they have each of them an arable field of six acres, in which they grow some clover and sainfoin. This is by no means so advantageous to them as grass land:

under these circumstances, however, they are very glad to have the land, and always pay their rent with great regularity.

I said that the cottagers paid a farmer's rent for their land, and not more ; but I ought to add, that the whole of the estate is let at moderate rents. The reader may find by calculation, that in Hambleton the land produces, per acre, nearly 20s. ; in Egleton about 23s. ; and in Burley 31s. per acre : the difference being occasioned partly by the difference of time, when the closes were respectively let at their present rents, and partly by some difference in the quality of the land.

The cottagers who keep cows are almost all of them labourers in husbandry: there are, however, among them, some widows and daughters of deceased labourers, and some men who work as country carpenters, or in similar trades. I can add, that of all the rents of the estate, none are more punctually paid, than those for the cottagers' land. The steward informs me that there has never been an instance of an arrear, or of a delay in payment, even for a few days.

When I state that the land is let at, and not under, a fair, moderate rent, I do not mean to be understood to say, exactly the same of the cottages ;\*

\* The increase of price in the materials for building, particularly in that country, makes it impracticable to supply the cottager with a proper and habitable dwelling, at a rent adapted to his circumstances, without some sacrifice on the part of the landlord. What remedy can be proposed for the evil I am not aware ; unless I may hope that the landowner will some day set down and precisely calculate in

which are comfortable and habitable buildings, in good repair, neatly kept, and regularly white-washed; and yet pay no more rent, than the ruinous and miserable hovels in England usually do.

The reader may, perhaps, wish to know how the cottager is at first set up with a cow. As an example, I will give the history of one man, who had a wife and several children, and was last year likely to be burthensome to the parish. It was agreed that the one remedy that promised relief to the parish in this case, was the cottager's cow. His landlord supplied him with land at a fair rent, and made his cottage and out buildings comfortable. He asked assistance of his neighbours: in the mansion house he collected about two or three guineas; among the farmers, by gift or loan, he obtained some handsome additions; he purchased his cow, took possession of his land, and is now doing very well.—About eight years ago, another labourer with a large family was supplied with a cow and land in the same manner. He has since bred up his large family without any parochial assistance,

how many ways the extra expense would be made up to him;—in the general benefit and credit of his estate;—in the health and well being of the poor, and in the consequent reduction of the poor-rates;—in the beauty and the pleasure of the country so adorned, and in self satisfaction, and real gratification. If he would enter dispassionately, and without prejudice, into this investigation, I trust he would soon discover *his true interest*; and that he might be induced to send a few of the materials, intended for his *grottos, castles, and temples*, to be applied for the repair of his cottages; for the credit and advantage of himself and his estates, and for the welfare and comfort of the poor connected with, and dependent on him.

and is now possessed of two cows, the second purchased wholly from his savings. Two others were provided with cows and land in the like manner, about four years ago, and have gone on very well.

The greater part of the cottagers have more than one cow. The fact is, that in every instance, as soon as the cottager has got a cow, all the efforts of the family are directed to the attainment of the means to purchase another, and another ; so that some of them, who began very lately with only one, have now five cows. The only inconvenience to be apprehended from such an increase in their property, is, that they may be induced to look to the produce of their cows and gardens, for the sole support of themselves and family, and cease to depend on their daily labour for their support ; being transformed into little starving farmers, from opulent thriving labourers. But the fact is directly the reverse.—Such are the beneficial effects of early and steady habits of industry, that these proprietors of cows are the most steady and trusty labourers. As a proof of the effects of this system in promoting industry and frugality, I give the history of one of them, Christopher Love,\* of Hambledon ; who

\* Since I was at Burley, one of these owners of cows, a shepherd of the name of Watkin, who lives within two or three doors of Christopher Love's cottage, had the misfortune to dislocate his hip. Upon his being visited, he has expressed regret at the expense of his surgeon's attendance, for which he is paying half-a-guinea a visit. "However" (he added) if it please God I recover my health and "strength, I shall not grudge any expense attending my "cure." In a common parish such a circumstance would

is now 75 years of age, and has for 53 years back kept three cows; and nevertheless has gone regularly every summer, for 50 years past, to harvest-work in Cambridgeshire: because he is more in request there, and receives better wages, than he would at home. He has bred up a family of nine children in great comfort, and is now well and in good health himself, and has been in Cambridgeshire this preceding harvest; but thinks he shall go no more, as the family for whom he used to work are all dead, or removed.

I saw one instance among them of a man who was bringing up and supporting nine children, all healthy, well fed, clean, and neatly dressed. A little child under four years of age was asked if she could spin? "No, she was too little, but she could knit." Her sister (said the mother, pointing to another girl, between five and six years of age) "spins very well; she got a prize for spinning this year, and brought home a premium of the value of six shillings in clothing."

The education of their children to husbandry, to the management of cattle and of a dairy, and to every occupation that can fit them for the service of a farmer, is a very important advantage of this system: and if there were no other benefit to be derived from it, but that of adapting, and habitually

have entailed a great and continuing charge on the parish. In this instance, the sufferer has never thought of applying to the parish for any assistance; and in all probability (whether a perfect cure be effected or not, which is very doubtful) he will never have any occasion for it. 10th Dec. 1799.



preparing, the rising generation for the most useful and necessary employment in the island ; this alone would produce an abundant compensation for any effort, or attention, that has been, or may be directed to the subject. They are not only stout, healthy, clean, well clothed, and educated in regular and principled habits of life, but they are used to almost every part of their business from the earliest period of life ; every inhabitant of the cottage being, from infancy, so interested in their cow, their pig, their sheep, and their garden, as to imbibe, at a very early age, all the material information and habit in those subjects.

The cottagers in that country eat barley, or mixed, bread ; and they prefer it, for a reason which one of them gave me ; that not only they can afford to have more of it, but can also add a little bit of meat to dress with the vegetables from the garden. This makes in the aggregate a very important amelioration of the condition of the cottager :—bread, butter, cheese, plenty of milk, and vegetables, and some meat to mix with their other food, compose, altogether, a table of diet unknown to many English cottagers, and extremely conducive to health, strength, and civilized habits of life. It is no inconsiderable convenience to the inhabitants of that neighbourhood, that these cottagers are enabled to supply them, at a very moderate price, with milk, cream, butter, poultry, pig-meat, and veal : articles which, in general, are not worth the farmer's attention, and which, therefore, are

supplied by speculators, who greatly enhance the price on the public.

### OBSERVATIONS.

In preparing this detail, I have endeavoured to give every circumstance as coldly and correctly as I could ; being aware that, in practical information, precision is of the utmost importance. I will not, however, presume to say, that in what I have written, I have been entirely uninfluenced by the pleasure of seeing the English cottager what, in a free, a prosperous, and enlightened country, he ought to be ;—*thriving, industrious, and happy.*

What has been stated will probably suggest to the reader, that the welfare of the cottager depends more on the improved resources and habits of life, than on any increase or superabundance of wages. In countries where the wages are the highest; without any improved system of management and economy among the poor, the condition of the cottager is very inferior to that of many places, where the wages of labour are lower, but the means and habits of life superior. Mechanics, who earn from a guinea to two guineas a week, in London, in Manchester, and other places, and who depend upon the neighbouring shop for the necessaries of life, and (to use a common expression) *live from hand to mouth*, do in general possess a less degree of domestic comfort, and enjoy a less proportion of the advantages of civilized life, than many cottagers. The explication is obvious. The mechanic, who with his family exists in a lodging, without any

advantage or impulse tending to domestic economy, and who earns, by a species of *slight of hand* in his trade, very high wages, applies what is barely necessary, in a weekly payment to the baker and some other tradesmen, for the support of the family; the rest goes to the club, or the alehouse, or is lost in intervals between labour: while the labourer and his family, who have the power and inducement to thrift and management, direct every effort to the improvement of their circumstances, and the increase of their comforts.

It will, to the latest period of my life, be a source of enviable satisfaction to me, if what is said in this and the other Reports of the society, shall have the effect of awakening the attention of the land-owner to an object so interesting and essential to him, as the situation of his industrious labourers; whose comforts and means of life he may greatly increase, not only without any immediate loss, but with a real and accumulating benefit to himself and his property; as he would soon find that by improving the condition of his dependents, and by exciting industry among them, he did proportionally increase the value of his estate. It would, indeed, be an act not only of benevolence and justice, but of wisdom and prudence, whether he directed his views to his own insulated property, or to the general welfare of the community.— Viewed in a political light, the labourer who has property, however small,—a cow, a pig, or even the crop of his garden,—has an interest in the welfare and tranquillity of his country, and in the

good order of society. He who has no property, is always ready for novelty and experiment ; and tho' gibbets and halters may for a time deter him from criminal and atrocious acts, yet no motive exists to fix him in virtuous habits, or to attach him to that national prosperity in which he has no part, and to that constituted order of property, which excludes him from all possession.

There is another consideration, suggested by the present high price of wheat corn. Those measures for the relief and subsistence of the poor, which are now essential to their existence in many other parts of the kingdom, are unnecessary in the neighbourhood of Burley. The cottager who is in the habit of using barley in bread, who keeps a pig, perhaps two, and has plenty of milk and vegetables, possesses within himself almost all the means of life ; and feels very little inconvenience from that which, in the present season, without the charitable aid and attention of the opulent, would oppress and overwhelm the labourer, whose existence depends on a mere pecuniary stipend. With such means of life he is less affected by the present high price of bread, than almost any other individual: the dearness of provisions produces not much variation in his circumstances ; except by delaying, for a very short time, the desired period of his purchasing another cow ; and by retarding his progressive thrift, and the improvement of his little property, for the benefit and *hereditary succession* of his wife and children.

In the facility of execution, and in the perma-

nence of effect, a very material difference exists between measures taken for the improvement of the cottager's means of life *in his own cottage*, and for the increase of his resources and incitements to thrift and industry, and those for the support and conduct of all *public charities and establishments* for the relief of the poor. The latter require an unattainable continuance of exertion, and an unfailing succession of disinterested care and attention: the former executes itself. The latter provide for the maintenance and relief of helpless and *hopeless* dependents: the former produces the *restoration* of health and strength.—When the cottager has acquired, and feels the benefit of, his new means and habits of life, his own exertions, his own attentions, will provide for the continuance of the blessings of his family, as long as his landlord will protect him in the enjoyment of his cottage and ground. He requires, in this instance, no subsequent labour or attention, on the part of his benefactor, to prevent the return of indigence and misery; whereas it demands the continuance of unwearied exertions in all public establishments, to conduct them properly, for the solace and relief of existing wretchedness.

In all that has been done by the Earl of Winchelsea for his cottagers, tho there has been much attention paid, and much disposition on his part to make a very considerable sacrifice, if requisite, for their benefit, yet in fact, and with the single exception which I have stated as to his cottages, so far from any loss or expense being incurred by him, a considerable and permanent improvement has been made



upon his estate, without any reduction in the immediate profit.—While the land let to the cottager is set at the same rent, as that which the farmers occupy, the country is enriched and improved by an industrious and thriving tenantry, and the poor-rates reduced almost to nothing.\* The labourers children are at the same time, so bred up, and so accustomed to regular habits of employment, as to be very little burthen to their parents, and to be a great and improving benefit to the estate.—The land-owner should keep in mind, that if the labourer is reduced to indigence, his support, which had been derived from his own exertions, must, in future, be drawn from the land. The farmer, indeed, *nominally* pays the poor rate ; but it is *really and ultimately defrayed*

\* In confirmation of what is here stated, I have much pleasure in adding an extract from a letter of Mr. Bassett, of Glentworth, in Lincolnshire, to Mr. Arthur Young, dated 6th Aug. 1799.—“ On this and on other estates belonging to Lord Scarborough, his Lordship has invariably directed me to accommodate the cottagers with a sufficient quantity of land to keep from one to two cows, and no more ; allotting as much meadow to each of such cottagers, as will keep their cattle with hay in the winter season ; and I am convinced, from the experience of thirty years, during which time I have been agent to the Scarborough family, that the result has been highly conducive to the happiness of my poor neighbours, and advantageous to the occupiers of farms, who have always a set of *industrious labourers* within their respective parishes, *who do not become chargeable in the time of sickness*, or when, from age, manual labour cannot any longer be performed by them : at such periods the produce of their cows and gardens affords them the means of a decent maintenance, and of the regular discharge of their rents.—I make out yearly the accounts of this parish ; and the rates and assessments on the occupiers of land, do not, on the average, amount to more than *eight-pence in the pound*, for the poor, church, constable, and highways.”

by the landlord; whose estate, by the increase and accumulation of poor's-rate, is deteriorated in value, and diminished in rental: while, on the contrary, by a different system—by promoting the welfare, and encouraging the energy of the cottager, the land-owner might have lessened the poor's-rate, and augmented the value and rental of the land.

I do not mean to assert that the English cottager, narrowed as he now is in the means and habits of life, may be immediately capable of taking that active and useful station in society, that is filled by those who are the subjects of this paper. To produce so great an improvement in character and circumstances of life, will require time and attention. The cottager, however, of this part of the county of Rutland, is *not of a different species from other English cottagers*; and if he had not been protected and encouraged by his landlord, he would have been the same helpless and comfortless creature that we see in some other parts of England. The farmer (with the assistance of the steward) would have taken his land; the creditor, his cow and pig; and the workhouse, his family.

As I am disposed to flatter myself, that some of my readers, who have landed property adapted to the experiment, may be induced to try this mode of *improving their estates*, I shall suggest what occurs to me as the method of proceeding; premising that in this, and in every thing else which the landlord may think fit to do for the benefit of his cottagers, he should be extremely careful not to make them

the subjects of jealousy, or dislike, to either the farmer or shopkeeper ; on whose good will to them, in spite of every attention of the landlord, much of their comfort and well being will depend, particularly in winter, when the presence of a friend and protector is most wanted. I should therefore recommend him, at first, to follow the example of Mr. Burdon, and to begin with a close or two of the ground in his own occupation. Let him then select two or three of his most thriving and industrious labourers, and inform each of them, that he is disposed to accommodate him with a little ground, at a moderate rent, if he can contrive to get a cow, and his wife can manage her : adding the offer of a small loan or donation towards it. The introduction of so novel a system may possibly require some aid and attention at first ; and it may be proper that the poor-rate on their ground should be kept down, as low as may fairly be ; but as soon as two or three cottagers have succeeded, and it is known that upon land becoming vacant in future, the cottager will be considered as well as the farmer, tho not to his injury or inconvenience ; and that, upon the occupier of any little farm of 20 or 30 acres being obliged, as they frequently are, to abandon a losing concern, the landlord would, in some instances, be disposed to apply the ground for the accommodation of five or six of the most deserving and thriving labourers, the farmer would soon be reconciled to a system which must in its nature operate to lower the poor's-rate, and to diminish the

burthen of the poor ;—the character of the cottager would be invigorated ;—his spirit, his industry, his economy, would be all put in action ; and a very essential improvement would take place in the estate and neighbourhood.

22d Oct. 1799.

## No. LXI.

*Extract from an account of the extension of the benefits of the charity-schools at Chester. By* THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.

THE income of the blue-coat-school at Chester had for several years been applied to the maintenance and education of 30 boys, who were admitted at nine years of age, and kept in the house for four years. This provision had proved to be extremely inadequate to its object; the greater number of the poor of that city being left entirely destitute of instruction. In 1783, the trustees adopted a beneficial extension of the charity: and in the course of that and of the ensuing year, they opened a day-school, in a wing of the hospital, for the instruction of 120 boys in reading, writing, and accounts. This they call the *green-school*, from the circumstance of each of the boys wearing a green bonnet. Two masters were engaged, one at £.35, the other at £.30 a year; and they have proved quite equal to the care of the 120 boys. The whole expence of teaching these boys, including their bonnets, &c. is not more than eighty guineas, or 14s a year, each.

In order to provide for this expence, the trustees diminished the number of boys in the blue-coat-school from 30 to 25; and at the same time extended the benefit of that school to a great increase of objects, by reducing the time of continuance to two years, and by selecting the best behaved and



most deserving boys of the *green-school* for all the vacancies in the *blue-coat-school*; so that 12 or 14 of the best boys of the former school are annually placed upon the foundation: the consequence of which is, that there is hardly any poor boy in that city, but may obtain a place in the *blue-coat-school*, if he perseveres in a course of industry and good behaviour.

This is of the greatest importance; as it extends the benefit, not only of instruction, but of (what is much more efficacious) emulation and example, to almost every lad in Chester. The boys are now admitted at nine years of age into the *green-school*, upon the nomination of the subscribers, who appoint scholars in rotation, according to the amount of their contributions to the charity. At the end of two years these boys are publicly examined for the *blue-coat-school*; after which, if their merit does not entitle them to one of the vacancies on the foundation, they remain in the *green-school* two years more; and are then dismissed at an age proper to be placed out in service. But if their progress has been such as to entitle them to a vacancy in the *blue-coat-school*, they are clothed and maintained there for two years, and at the expiration of that period, if they have made a competent progress in reading, writing, and accounts, and (in case the sea is their object) in navigation, they are placed out, with an apprentice fee of three pounds each, in husbandry, the sea-service, or in some useful trade or occupation.

Upon the former plan the funds of this charity

provided, in ten years, an education for 75 children: in the present mode, \* besides the increased motives for good behaviour and attention, 362 poor children of Chester receive an education during the same period. This has been attended with no additional expense: the degree of benefit, however, far exceeds any thing that could have been attained upon the former system; for the terms of succeeding to the blue-coat school, offered equally to all, supplies that stimulating incentive to human exertion, without which the best framed establishments lose their vital principle, and degenerate into visionary and noxious theory.

Similar attention has been paid to the female children in that town. It had been ascertained by Dr. Haygarth, and some others, who were in the habit of visiting the habitations of the poor of Chester, that the girls there, as in many other towns, were extremely destitute of useful employment; and that of those from 9 to 13 years of age, in one parish, *three-fourths* could not sew at all, and not one of them so well, as to make a single article of dress. They were equally ignorant of

\* Dr. Haygarth, who was the proposer of the *green-school*, suggested, in 1797, a further improvement in it: that, in addition to their other learning, the greater part of the boys should alternately be instructed and employed in the needle manufacture, in a large unoccupied room, which is over the school. There is a want of occupation for boys at Chester, tho there is already an established needle manufactory there, which might furnish employment, and finish the work. As to the blue-coat-boys, it was proposed that part of their profits should be laid up for their use and advancement in life, and those of the boys of the *green-school*, paid over to their parents.

knitting and spinning; and so unskilful in the common occupations of life, as to be disqualified for domestic servants, and for most other offices in society, and to have very few means of earning an honest livelihood.

It was calculated that four schools of 40 girls each, to be taught for four years, from the age of 9 to 13 years, in addition to a school already existing for maintaining and educating 8 girls, would nearly provide for all the poor girls in Chester, who were unemployed, of a proper age for instruction, and in want of charitable aid for their education. It was therefore proposed that the girls should change their school every year, and (besides their being taught to read in all the schools, and attending the parish church twice on Sunday) that they should learn in the first year to knit, in the second to spin, in the third to sew, and in the fourth to wash and get up linen; the four schools being placed near the centre of the city, so that the scholars might, without inconvenience, go each year to a different school. In this manner it was calculated that, in the whole, the education of 42 girls would be annually completed.

The knitting, spinning, and sewing schools had, from the time of their establishment in 1787, been regularly attended; and no difficulty had occurred in supplying work for the knitters and spinners, tho there had some at first as to the sewing-school. In procuring employment for the school for washing and getting up linen, there has been very great difficulty; and in consequence this part of the plan

was soon given up. The schools are now reduced to two,\* one for knitting, the other for sewing; these are very well supplied with work, and the children continue there for two years.

On their first appearance at school, the children come in but ill clothed, and not well behaved; but, in a short time, by their industry, and by the co-operating benevolence of the ladies who visit the school, they are not only improved in behaviour, but are supplied with uniform gowns and petticoats, as well as with several other articles of dress; all their clothes, except shoes and stockings, being made at the sewing-school.

The subscriptions were at first limited to five shillings each; tho, among the more opulent, several persons of the same family were admitted as subscribers. They are at present not subject to limitation; and liberal donations have been made for supplying books, wheels, forms, and for other expenses. A considerable benefit has accrued from connecting these girl-schools in some degree with the Sunday-schools of Chester:—for, as an encouragement to good behaviour, the most deserving girls in the Sunday-schools are regularly elected into the working-schools. This has a powerful and extensive effect in improving the morals and behaviour of all the girls in the Sunday-schools, and

\* The great improvement of spinning mills has very nearly deprived the poor of any profit by spinning. There are few cottagers who have not suffered in this respect; but in some parishes the labourers' wives and children are now entirely precluded from this employment, without any other means of occupation being opened to them.

with them of almost all the female children in Chester.

### OBSERVATIONS.

It is not an unreasonable or unfounded presumption, that the extension of the schools at Chester will operate to improve the rising generation, in skill, industry, honesty, economy, sobriety, and in all those virtues, which result from a proper and religious education, and which can contribute to an useful and happy life.—There are very few of these virtues, that do not principally depend on education, and on the seeds sown in the mind during the early period of life. A very able writer\* has observed, that “drunkenness is the vice of an uncultivated mind:” and in truth, with very few exceptions, this vice, in all its beastly deformity, will be found to be most prevalent among the ignorant and uninformed; among those who have had no means of improving or appreciating their faculties, and who, in respect of mental and moral improvement can, be placed but little above the brute creation.

In all those moral virtues, which are of such inestimable value through life—of industry and skill I say nothing, for it is obvious that instruction and habit are their vital principle—but in moral virtues,—in fidelity, truth, justice, and integrity,—every attainment is casual and accidental,—all improvement deceitful and uncertain, except that

\* The Rev. Mr. Townsend in his Dissertation on the Poor Laws.



which originates in principle, and whose basis firmly rests on the sure ground of a religious education.

The absurd prejudices that *have* existed against extending the common and general benefits of education to the children of the poor, and the extraordinary supposition, that an uneducated and neglected boy will prove an honest and useful man,—that a youth of ignorance and idleness will produce a mature age of industry and virtue,—are now in great measure exploded. Switzerland, and Scotland, and the northern counties of England, where the education and occupation of youth are particularly attended to, afford very gratifying evidence of the contrary position. The individuals of those counties are not only more industrious and more thriving, but, of all parts of Europe, peculiarly exempt from criminal habits\*.

If the revenues of all our charity schools were applied as advantageously as those of the blue-coat-school, and the other schools at Chester, it is probable that the funds would be sufficient to give to every individual in England, the same advantages of early instruction and good habits, as are enjoyed by our northern neighbours, and by the inhabitants of Switzerland. In order to produce this effect, some existing prejudices against removing ancient abuses, and (I am sorry to be obliged to add) some degree of interest or patronage in the continuance

\* See Howard on Prisons, p. 124; and on Lazarettos, p. 120.

of those abuses, must be given up; and the enquiry must be fairly and impartially entered into, how the good effects of every charity may be best attained, and most widely extended, without injustice to its original objects. There is hardly any charitable fund in England to which the example of Chester may not in some degree apply, and by the application of which, children may not be enabled to acquire those early and principled habits of life, without which *wealth* and *power* (and even *liberty* itself), are to the possessors of but little value;—too frequently the source of ungoverned passions and criminal habits; pernicious at the same time to other members of society, and destructive to the welfare and existence of the community.

7th Oct. 1799.

## No. LXII.

*Extract from an account of the society at Dublin for promoting the comforts of the poor. By LORD TEIGNMOUTH.*

IT must be a subject of real satisfaction to every well wisher to his country that, in the course of the preceding spring, a society has been formed at Dublin, *for promoting the comforts of the poor*; the President of which is the Marquis Cornwallis, the Lord Lieutenant of that kingdom; the six Vice-presidents, the Chancellor, the Speaker, and four other persons of the first rank; and the 34 members of the committee, some of the most respectable characters in that country.

In their account of the plan and regulations of the society, they state, that some individuals having observed with pleasure the progress of a society, instituted in England in the year 1796, "*for bettering the condition, and increasing the comforts of the poor,*" were encouraged by their success to form themselves into a society, founded upon similar principles, to be denominated "*the society for promoting the comforts of the poor.*"—That the general object of the society (being the same as the declared object of the English society) is to collect and circulate such useful and practical information, derived from experience, respecting the circumstances, and situation of the poor, and the most effectual means of meliorating their condition, as

may induce and enable all well disposed persons, to unite in the promotion of measures, so important to the happiness and welfare of the community at large.—That they are determined ever to keep in view this principle,—“ that the best relief the poor “ can receive, is from themselves; and that the “ most effectual method of improving their condi- “ tion, is by the encouragement of *industry, pru- “ dence, and cleanliness:*” and they trust that the local experience of humane individuals, whether employed for the encouragement of industry and increase of comfort, for the prevention and relief of distress, or for the general improvement of the morals and condition of the lower classes, being thus collected, and afterwards diffused over the kingdom at large, will animate and instruct the nation in the pursuit of these important objects.

Their regulations do not materially differ from those of the English society. They are as follow : 1st. That the business of the society be conducted by their vice-presidents and a committee of thirty-four members. 2d. That every person who shall subscribe one guinea, annually, shall become a member of this society, so long as they shall think proper to continue such subscription; and any person who shall subscribe ten guineas in one donation, shall become a member for life. 3d. That every annual subscription be for the whole, or the remaining part of the year, in which it is paid, computing to the 31st of December; and that any person who shall become a subscriber before the 31st of December next, shall be entitled to one

copy of the first volume of the Reports of the English Society, already instituted for similar purposes ; and that all subscribers of one guinea annually, or of ten guineas in one donation, shall be also entitled to two copies of every publication which shall hereafter be made by order of this society, and so in proportion upon any larger subscription. 4th. That every person hereafter proposed for election, as a member of the committee, be nominated one month, at least, previous to election, and the proposal be entered on the minute-book, and when the names of seven members of the committee shall be subscribed to the recommendation, the committee shall proceed to election by ballot, when two black balls shall exclude ; the person proposing him being, in case of his election, to pay down his first annual subscription, or his donation, as the case may be. 5th. That no election or ballot for publication take place, except at a general meeting, at which not less than nine members shall be present. 6th. That all questions relating to publication, and election, be decided by ballot ; and that two black balls be sufficient to suspend the publication of any paper ; and when the publication of any paper shall have been three times suspended, it shall be considered as finally rejected. 7th. That sub-committees may be appointed by the committee (consisting of two or more of its members) for particular purposes, and with such powers as the committee may think fit to delegate to them. 8th. That no future regulations have effect, until approved by a subsequent



meeting of the committee ; and that no orders of any sub-committee (unless under a special authority) be binding, until confirmed at a general meeting of the committee, consisting of not less than nine members. 9th. That the ordinary general meetings of the committee be holden at two o'clock precisely, on the first Monday in each month, or at such day and hour as the committee shall adjourn to. 10th. That a sub-committee, consisting of seven members, to be denominated the acting sub-committee, (of whom three shall constitute a quorum) be appointed every three months, on the following days of general meeting ; that is to say, the first Monday in January, in April, in July, and in October ; to whom the business of the general committee shall be specially deputed for the three months ensuing the days of appointment ; and that the acting sub-committee shall meet at two o'clock on every Monday, at the committee room, (and oftener if necessary, notice having been given to each member of such sub-committee, of the time and place of attendance) and be open to the vice-presidents, and to all such members of the general committee as shall think proper to attend. 11th. That the duty of the acting sub-committee be to examine all communications given in to the society, and to carry on the necessary correspondence of the society: but that no publication be finally determined on, except at a general monthly meeting of the committee. 12th. That no person be appointed a member of a sub-committee, unless he be actually present at the time of his appointment, or unless he shall have signified

to the secretary his intention to attend. 13th. That whenever any member of a sub-committee shall find it necessary to absent himself from attendance thereon, for the space of one month, he shall give notice of such intended absence to the said sub-committee, who shall thereupon elect another member of the general committee in his place. 14th. That societies formed in the country for purposes similar to the objects of this society, be entitled to one copy of every publication made by order of this. 15th. That all members of the committee of the English society, who shall at any time visit Dublin, shall, during the time of their abode here, be considered as honorary members of this committee, and as such shall be admissible, and are hereby invited to attend all general meetings of this committee, which shall be holden during their stay; and that the English committee be entitled to two copies of every publication made by order of this. 16th. That all plans for promoting the objects of this society shall (if approved of, as likely to be useful and practicable, by the general committee) be carefully preserved, but never published as proceedings of the society on any account, until they shall have been successfully acted upon in, at least, a single instance. 17th. That all drafts on account of the society, on their banker, shall be made by order of the committee, and entered in the minutes of the day, and be signed by three, at least, of the committee, of whom the chairman of the day shall be one, and countersigned by the secretary. 18th. That a general meeting of the subscribers be holden

on the first Monday in February, in every year, to receive a report on the finances of the society, and on the transactions of the preceding year, and to consider the same. 19th. That no political discussion, nor any essay of a political nature, be on any account admissible. 20th. That when the publication of any paper shall have been determined on, it shall be submitted to the final revision and correction of some one member of the committee, who shall correct all mistakes in point of form, and shall be at liberty to introduce such alterations as shall appear essential to him, provided he shall have previously submitted such proposed alterations to the acting sub-committee, and obtained their concurrence, and the approbation of the author. 21st. That a sub-committee of control be appointed, and that no order shall be made to apply any part of the funds of the society to any particular object (except the ordinary business of the institution) until the proposal for so doing shall have been first referred to the said sub-committee for consideration. 22d. That no fundamental regulation of this society shall be at any time repealed, unless the person intending to move for such repeal shall have given one month's notice of his intention so to do; which notice shall be entered on the minutes, and contained in the summons served upon each member to attend the ensuing general meeting of the committee; and unless fifteen members of the committee shall be present, and two-thirds of the members present concur as to the propriety of such repeal.

## OBSERVATIONS.

I have given the regulations at length, as they may be useful in assisting the formation of other societies, for similar purposes. It cannot but be flattering to the London society, to see another institution, professedly originating out of the success attending its progress, founded in a neighbouring island, on the same principles, and under the highest patronage.

Nothing can be more honourable to this country, than the disposition so generally prevalent amongst individuals in the higher orders of society, to exert themselves for the benefit of the poorer classes of their fellow-subjects; and nothing can be of greater importance, than to give this disposition a proper direction, that the efforts of beneficence may not be defeated, by a misapplication of its assistance.

The knowledge required for this purpose must be the result of experience, to which nothing can more certainly lead, than investigations how the comforts of the poor may be best promoted; not by relaxing their industry, or weakening their habits of frugality, but by strengthening and increasing the motives to both; for, to quote the words of our President, "if the manner in which relief is given, is not a spur to industry, it becomes in effect, a premium to sloth and profligacy."\*

The reports of the London society prove, that

\* See the Seventh Report of the Society; the Account of the Management of the Poor at Hamburgh.

the object, tho' difficult of attainment, is not impracticable,—that the means for this purpose may be so adapted, as to relieve the poor, and excite their industry; to increase their means of subsistence, and yet encourage economy, and render the effects of liberality subservient to the best moral uses, that of promoting good habits.

Every new institution having the same objects in view, must in its progress augment the general mass of experimental information; and whilst we anticipate with pleasure the prospect of our own gains in this respect, from the establishment of the Dublin Society, we cannot but participate the satisfaction which the poor of that country must feel, from the public demonstration which this establishment affords, of a general attention to their interests, and an anxiety to promote their comforts; nor could any more effectual means be devised to conciliate their affections.

The comparative experience, which will be found in the reports of similar societies in different countries, must lead to important and beneficial conclusions. The same modes of relieving the industrious poor, are not adapted to all states and situations, although the principle which should govern the application of them cannot be varied. Much has been done, and more may be successfully performed by the efforts of individuals in England, in correcting the prejudicial effects of the poor laws, workhouses, mendicity, &c. and in Ireland the field appears to be equally extensive for the exertions of individual benevolence.

*19th. Dec. 1799.*



## No. LXIII.

*Extract from an account of the free Church at Bath.*

*By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.*

THE free church, in the parish of Walcot, at Bath, was opened in November, 1798, for the general and indiscriminate accommodation of the poor. The idea was originally suggested by the Rev. Mr. Daubeney, in a sermon delivered at St. Margaret's chapel, at Bath, in April, 1792; and afterwards, with the concurrence and approbation of the Rev. Mr. Sibley, the Rector of the parish, published with an address to the inhabitants.

In this discourse, Mr. Daubeney, after enlarging upon the great characteristic of the Christian religion, that, "THE POOR HAVE THE GOSPEL PREACHED TO THEM," and upon the expected benefits of the Sunday schools then established at Bath, proceeded to ask "where are the children of that place when discharged from the Sunday schools, at a time of life the most dangerous,—where are they to gain that instruction, which is calculated to bring to perfection the education which they have received? If, in conformity to the ideas with which they have been brought up, they come to places of worship belonging to the establishment, they find, alas! the doors, for the most part, shut\* against them."—He then goes

\* The parish of Walcot contains nearly 13,000 inhabitants; but tho there are among them many opulent

on to observe, that this is, in some degree, to exclude them from the established church, instead of inviting them, and providing places of worship for them; without which (he adds) “ we cannot be surprised that they should no longer continue members of a church, which, in a manner, *excommunicates* them. In which case their infidelity, and consequent immorality, will not so much lay at their own doors, as at the doors of those who ought, in charity, to have taken their case into consideration, and to have provided means for their instruction.”

This discourse had its due effect on the audience, and several hundred pounds were immediately subscribed among them, before they quitted the church. With the example of some principal subscribers both among the clergy and laity, the subscriptions, in a short time, amounted to £2700. Any objections which might have occurred to doubting minds,

families, yet there is a considerable number of poor. The parish church has been within these few years enlarged and improved; but the interest money of the expenditure is defrayed by farming, and letting, as many private pews as can be practicably done. The poor by these means are, in a great measure, excluded from their own parish church; an evil not remedied by there being, within the parish, four chapels, (all *private property*) where the seats are let by the month, quarter, or year, at very high prices.—I do not mean to suggest, that no accommodation is left for the poor. In Laura chapel, at Bath, I observed 100 seats reserved for the poor, in the back of the south gallery; and 40 for charity children. Nor do I mean to make any objection to this accommodation of the rich, in such a place as Bath, where there is a continual influx of strangers; but only to suggest the propriety and justice, in this and many other similar instances, of more attention being paid to the religious duties of the poor.

were obviated by the publication of the plan; which was that tho the church was to be free from all parochial duty and controul, yet it was to be consecrated by the bishop of the diocese, and the officiating ministers licensed by the bishop, in confirmation of their appointment by the rector of the parish: that the whole area of the building should be appropriated to the free accommodation of the common people; and the seats in the galleries should be let out to tradesmen, and persons in a superior rank of life, at such prices, as might furnish a sum sufficient for the service and repairs:—that there should be a full service both morning and afternoon every Sunday, and a sacrament once a month;—and lastly, that the building itself should be vested in trustees, with powers and provisions adequate to the purpose of securing it to the public for ever, in conformity to the design with which it was originally constructed.

The conductors of this exemplary undertaking having purchased for £300. a leasehold piece of ground, in an airy situation, in the centre of the parish, as a site for the new church, Lord Rivers, in whom the fee simple of the ground was vested, made them a handsome offer of his remaining interest in it; so that it was made *free ground* in perpetuity. This offer having been carried into effect, a plain but handsome Gothic edifice was then erected; Mr. Daubeny taking upon himself the risk of any expense beyond the amount of the subscriptions. It is calculated to accommodate 1000 persons in the area, which is the free part of the

church; and between three and four hundred persons in the galleries, the produce of which is appropriated to defray the annual outgoings. The church was consecrated on the 7th of November, and opened for divine service on Sunday, November 18, 1798; the Rev. Mr. Daubeny, and the Rev. Mr. Leigh, having previously received their nomination and license, as the officiating ministers of it. The cost of the church rather exceeded £3,500.; not including those ornamental articles, which have been contributed as the donations of several persons, in addition to their original subscriptions; and an organ, which has been deemed necessary to lead so large a congregation to join in the singing part of the service, and to operate as some additional inducement to their attendance.

In March, 1799, a meeting of the subscribers was held at the request of Mr. Daubeny (who had acted as treasurer in the conduct of the business) to examine his accounts. Some little deficiency in the funds is still remaining; but not more than will, it is hoped, be soon supplied; and when that is done, I trust that the chapel will in future pay its own expences. Ever since the opening, the church has been very fully and regularly attended. I was at the evening service there, on the 24th instant. The gallery, indeed, was not above half filled, the seats being reserved for the renters of them; but the area below contained above a thousand persons,\*

\* In the area there appeared to be several persons of a superior class of life, probably not aware that *they were occupying seats intended for the poor; who were thereby excluded*

decently and cleanly dressed, and receiving the benefit of divine worship, with a degree of propriety and attention, that made the service extremely awful and impressive. It was a sight that must have given the greatest satisfaction to every zealous Christian, who had an opportunity of participating in this act of devotion; whilst the gratitude that is expressed by the lower orders of people for the accommodation so liberally provided for them, and the eagerness with which they attend the service of the church, furnish the most favourable omens of the good effects that may be derived, from an establishment of this truly pious and charitable nature.

### OBSERVATIONS.

The propriety and expediency of the provision made, in this instance, for the religious duties and instruction of the poor at Bath, are so obvious and unquestionable, that it is difficult to state any reasons in their favour, which will not have already occurred to the reader's mind, on the perusal of the preceding account. It is very apparent that the free church at Bath must greatly contribute, in that place, to the improvement of moral and religious habits among the lower classes of society, to the prevalence of the established church, and to the permanence and stability of internal peace and civil order. It must be equally

*from the accommodation peculiarly appropriated to them. There were many poor persons attended at the door that evening, for whom there were no places.*



apparent to every one, who has turned his attention to the situation of the poor in London, and to their means and opportunities of exercising their religious duties, that several such chapels,\* as the free church at Bath, are now wanted in our metropolis; and that, without such chapels, the poor, tho living in a Christian country, do not possess the common benefits of that religion, which its divine Author addressed principally to them. If even with those who have had the blessing of a religious education, and have had the books of revelation opened and explained to them,—if even in their instance “religion, the rewards of which  
“are distant, and which is animated only by faith  
“and hope, will glide by degrees out of the mind,  
“unless it be invigorated and re-impressed by external ordinances, by stated calls to worship, and  
“by the salutary influence of example,”† what must we expect of the ignorant and uneducated? of those who are pressed down by necessity, and have no support derived from the truths of revelation, or from the principles of morality?

It is mere mockery to give the name of *accommodation*, to the space that is left for the poor, in the aisles of our churches, in London and West-

\* While this Report is printing, I have very great satisfaction in being able to announce to the public, that a neat and commodious chapel is already engaged, for a long term of years, in a central situation in St. Giles's; and that there is every reason to hope that it may be opened for divine service, as a free church for the poor, in the course of a short time. 20th Jan. 1800.

† Johnson.

minster. They are neither adapted to the performance of the duties of religious worship, nor would they contain a *fiftieth* part of those, *who ought to be accommodated there*. While the rich are conveniently seated for their money, the poor should not be neglected. They should, as far as kindness and attention will go, *be compelled to come in*. They should have the advantage of their residence in a Christian and Protestant country; and inducement should be held out to them, such at least as decent and comfortable seats would afford, to attend regularly at the established church, and to unite with the rest of their fellow-subjects, in the constant observance of the sabbath, and in religious worship.

29th Nov. 1799.

## No. LXIV.

*Extract from an Account of the Mendip Schools.*

By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.

THE Mendip schools are situate in the part of Somersetshire, between Wells, Bristol, and the channel which divides Wales from England. They extend over 12 parishes, which are dispersed throughout a district of country, about 25 miles in diameter. They are intended not merely for the education of youth, but for the instruction and reformation of mature life, and for the improvement and consolation of the aged; and, according to the circumstances of each parish, are opened daily, or twice or thrice a week, or on Sundays only. The early part of the Sabbath is devoted to the instruction of the young, who afterwards proceed to church in a body, to attend divine service. Towards the close of the day the room is frequented by others; chiefly by the aged, who come to take the benefit of the evening readings and discourse; and attend with great pleasure and eagerness, to derive from religious information and society that solid relief, which alone can give comfort to declining life, and smooth the path to the grave. Their stay in the school is for half an hour, an hour, or more, as their convenience or inclination directs. The number of those who frequent the schools, including children and parents, is about three thousand.

Ten years ago that neighbourhood exhibited a very different appearance. There are few gentlemen's seats; scarcely any resident clergy; and there was little to be seen in that country which could distinguish it as in civilized society, or within the pale of Christianity. In the populous and extensive parish of Cheddar, the congregation at the parish church on an average did not exceed the number of *twenty*:—the regular attendants at that church are now *eight hundred*, and sometimes more. The precepts of Christianity were almost unknown and disregarded in that district:—they are now the comfort of the aged, and the guide of the young; and the contemplation and observance of them have been attended by a rich and abundant harvest of moral virtues;—of honesty, sobriety, diligence, industry, and chastity.

All this has been effected by the labour of two individuals, who, fortunately for this country, fixed their residence there, about ten years ago.—As the means of relieving and assisting their uninstructed neighbours, they hired an house at Cheddar, one of the 12 parishes, and in this they established a school; they engaged for it an intelligent master and mistress, and opened the doors, not only to uneducated children, but to all the poor of the parish. The young were allowed to attend for instruction during an hour or two, or such other time as their daily labour, or ordinary occupations of life, permitted. On the Lord's day the house was opened as a Sunday school; and in the evening of that day, as a Sunday aged society, the first

example of the kind; where the two patronesses of the school were present, read a sermon, and conversed with the old people who attended.

When such benefit and satisfaction were attainable, it is no wonder that, in despite of ignorance and prejudice, and of every opposition which they could make, the scholars became more numerous, and the audience increased. The schools were extended to other places; and in the poorer parishes female societies, under the direction of the two patronesses and of two female stewards, were formed for the relief of poor women on the following plan:—that each member should pay one shilling entrance, and three halfpence a week, to be paid on the second Monday in the month; but subject to forfeiture, on neglect of payment for three succeeding months. In case of sickness, each member to be allowed three shillings and sixpence a week for four weeks, and afterwards one shilling and sixpence a week until they recover;—in case of death, the fund to contribute one guinea, and each member sixpence to the funeral: and in case of child-birth, every married woman to be allowed seven shillings and sixpence at her lying-in, in case she has been married nine months. No member is admissible under the age of 14, or above the age of 45, or in an infirm state of health; or to be entitled to any contribution, until after she has been a member for 12 months. In case of a call for relief, application is to be made to one of the stewards, whose duty it is to visit the party, and examine, and report upon the case.



After several regulations to prevent and punish impropriety of conduct or discourse, and to provide for the continuance of the society, it is declared that the annual meeting shall be in the beginning of July, when the patronesses, stewards, and members, shall attend divine service, and a sermon; and to save the club all expenses incident to such annual meetings, and to prevent the necessity of women being seen at a public house, the entertainment is at the cost of the patronesses, who engage to treat the company with tea and cakes, so long as they continue to behave themselves well, and are punctual in sending their children to school. In order to encourage chastity and good morals in the single women, the patronesses present every young woman *of good character*, who has been educated in their schools, and continues to attend religious instruction there, with five shillings, a new Bible, and a pair of white stockings, on the day of marriage.\*

In the course of four years, from October 1789, the time of the commencement of the first of these schools, a very considerable progress was made; the education of youth had been attended to, and the improvement and religious habits of the poor, of every period of life, had been increased. The founders of these schools have not been unaware how essential and indispensable it is that the basis

\* This is abridged from the "Articles of Agreement to be observed by a Society of Women, held in the parishes of Shipham and Rowbonow, in Somersetshire; commencing in September 1792." The reader would do well to apply for a copy of the rules at length.

of all amendment and reformation in the poor (and the principle applies equally to the rich) should be laid in religion, and in christian knowledge. Until the scholar is impressed with a deep sense of the fallen state of man, and of the corruption of human nature, no effectual and permanent reform can be produced in the human heart ; nor can any warning be profitably given against idleness, drunkenness, or dishonesty, until the mind is subjected to the influence of Christianity, and supplied with religious motives of conduct, so as to fill up the vacancy of idle and vicious amusements. Without it the best resolutions of man are fickle and uncertain, existing only till a more potent influence shall be exerted against them.

The reader will have observed that, to promote sobriety and decency of habit in these female societies, all the social meetings are held at the school-house, and the entertainments consisting of cakes and tea are at the expense of the patronesses ; and that, in order to give a value to chastity, the basis of almost every other female virtue, rewards, consisting of a small sum of money, a large Bible, and a pair of stockings knit by one of the donors, are bestowed by these two ladies upon the marriage of every scholar of good character. They are delivered publicly, and with solemnity ; and tho of not much apparent value, are deemed very great objects of attainment.

The anniversary meeting of these societies and schools is, generally, early in July. Of that held on the eighth day of last August, I am able to give

a correct account, from the relation of my sister, Mrs. White, who was one of the ladies then present.—The day begins with a breakfast at Miss H. More's house, at Cowslip Green, which is attended by the neighbouring families. From thence they adjourned to Shipham, one of their school-houses, which was decorated by the hands of the children with wreaths and chaplets of natural flowers; every room, and the outside of the cottage, being white washed, and made a pattern of rural neatness. The company was invited to partake of a collation above stairs, while the better sort of poor were collecting together below to walk to the church in a procession, which was composed first of the school children of this and the adjoining parish, in number about 120, with their school mistresses; after them the clergyman, who was to preach, the vicar of the parish, and some of the neighbouring clergy, two and two. Then followed Miss Martha More, one of the patronesses, and her sister Mrs. More, of Bath, and the ladies who were members of the society; followed by the poor who were members, and then the ladies and gentlemen who were introduced by members.

After divine service we had a discourse, exhorting the audience to fulfil all the duties of Christianity, in every rank and condition of society, and to set the example of a virtuous and religious life. The company then returned to the school, where the children were called over; each being noticed in its turn, and receiving the present of a plumb cake, with a particular commendation of every one who

had been distinguished for good behaviour. The children were then dismissed ; and the poor women, and some of the lesser farmers' wives and daughters, sat down to their entertainment of tea and cakes. The ladies assisted to make the tea, and butter the cakes ; and in the course of an hour, in three rooms, about a hundred were served with great attention and satisfaction. The yearly account of the society was then examined by Miss Martha More, with the assistance of the vicar, and his wife ; all the particulars were minutely explained to the members, and the balance in hand, amounting to rather better than £. 50, was produced, as their fund for sickness or misfortune. It was stated that £. 50 more had, with consent, been lent in the preceding year on government security ; which the poor expressed a wish might be continued.—After the ladies and gentlemen present had tendered their benefactions to the society, and some members had been admitted whose character and conduct had been previously inquired into, and others entered and their names referred for inquiry, the patronesses' wedding present, with some profitable advice, was given to a young woman, who had been married since the last meeting.

Miss Martha More then addressed herself to her poorer friends, with much energy and effect ;—to mothers, on good order in their families ; on decency of conduct, and the efficacy of example : to young wives, on industry, attention, neatness, gentleness of manners, and good temper : to young women, preparing for, or going into service, on

obedience, simplicity of dress, and mutual kindness and affection to each other. She concluded with an animated detail of the happy effects of a truly christian spirit ; as supplying comfort during life, and at the hour of death, and affording the hope of eternal happiness hereafter.—The poor then departed to their homes, having expressed their gratitude, for the comforts they had derived from the institution during the late severe winter, and having poured forth their earnest wishes and prayers for the health of their absent patroness, Miss Hannah More, who by severe illness was prevented attending this anniversary meeting, which she had originally founded.

### OBSERVATIONS.

In giving this short and, I fear, imperfect detail of what has been done for the benefit of the poor and the ignorant, and for the promotion of true Christianity, in the county of Somerset, I do not presume to express an hope that individuals will come forward in other parts of England, who shall possess the abilities, and will equal the active and persevering industry, of the founders of these schools. They have devoted the chief part of ten years to this single and desirable object ; an object, which still continues to occupy almost all their attention and time. Such exertions, and so great sacrifices, are not to be expected from others ; nor are they necessary. The example of what has been done, in this instance, may be adopted upon a lower scale of energy and labour ; it may be applied to a



single parish, or to a small hamlet. It may (without labour, and without a sacrifice of any of the rational pleasures or appropriate duties of life) become an amusement, a gratification, and the means of improvement, to every educated and independent person in every part of the kingdom.

To occupy life with satisfaction,—to improve the morals, and increase the happiness, of the circle around us,—to strengthen the bonds, and insure the peace, of society,—and to draw gratitude and blessings from a virtuous and thriving neighbourhood,—these are not pleasures of an ordinary cast, or of inferior consideration. These enjoyments, however, and more than these, may be attained by those individuals who may be induced to adopt the example of what has been here detailed; and to form themselves into societies, for the protection and improvement of the poor. Great indeed would be the benefit of such associations, for the assistance of middle age, for the relief and consolation of declining years, and for that object, the importance of which cannot be too strongly or too frequently stated,—the education of youth *in steady habits of industry and integrity, and in the genuine principles of Christianity.*

Of education it may be truly said, that it is the only *earthly* blessing, capable of being universally diffused and enjoyed, with an exemption from all inconvenient consequences. I speak of that genuine and well directed education, which is calculated to fit persons to act a strenuous and useful part, in their allotted station in life;—of that edu-

cation, which teaches and demonstrates the advantages of early and steady habits of attention and industry, and forms in the heart, stable and permanent principles of conduct. It is this, and this only, which supplying the mind with competent funds of human knowledge, and with just conceptions of man's probationary state in this world, drawn from the sources of revelation, doth thereby preserve it from the danger and *taint* of infidelity; that never confidently attempts, and very rarely succeeds in debasing and corrupting the heart of man, unless where it has been left *vacant and unoccupied*, for the evil spirit to fix his abode in.

In the present state of Ireland, and (to take a wider and more awful scope) amid the tremendous convulsions which have for some time agitated Europe, let us reflect how much of the evil is to be attributed to *an improvident neglect in the education of the poor*; a neglect, which has left them a defenceless prey to the sophistry and delusion of the teachers of infidelity, and of the disseminators of sedition. Ignorant, unprincipled, incapable of giving a reason for their faith, or of explaining the benefits of civil order and society, to what miseries have not the poor, in many parts of Europe, been exposed? How have they been taught by sad and calamitous experience, that without the sanctions of revealed religion, and the restrictions of civil polity, man is of all animals the most savage and noxious? and that reason, which is his boast and pride, (and justly so when properly directed) becomes in a perverted state, the potent instrument

of evil ; and enables him to surpass the ferocious beast, and the venomous animal, in the magnitude and extent of the calamities, too often inflicted on his fellow creatures.

Every attainment of man carries in it the principle of decay and corruption ; with exception only of that instruction and institution, which prepares him for the performance of duty here, and for the enjoyment of happiness hereafter. Of manufactures, of commerce, of both individual and national prosperity, nay even of science itself, the extended and abundant increase tends to complete the fatal circle ; and, by decay, convulsion, anarchy, and misery, to produce a new and renovated order of things. In an advanced state of society, where the meridian is attained or passed, nothing can prevent or even protract the evil day, except the revivifying influence of education, operating to correct the vices which flow from affluence and prosperity.

To England, in its present state, these considerations are of peculiar importance. While increasing streams of wealth pour into this country from every part of the globe, it behoves us, if we would guard against the pernicious effects of corrupt and luxurious habits, anxiously to attend to the education of the children of the poor. Without that care, we may read our history, in that of the many rich and prosperous empires, which have preceded us. On the contrary, while the religious education of the great mass of the people is duly and successfully attended to, and they are prepared in their turn

to reap and enjoy the benefits of active industry and useful economy, we need never (to repeat the words of a former Report) "despair of our country; but  
 "may look with confidence to a renewal of strength  
 "and virtue, in the succession of honest and industrious youth."

10th December, 1799.

## No. LXV.

*Extract from an account of the Bath Repository for the benefit of the poor. By Mrs. BERNARD.*

TOWARDS the end of the year 1796, a Repository was opened at Bath by several ladies, for the reception of works of industry and ingenuity, to be sold for the benefit of the poor. It is supported by subscription, and is conducted by a committee of ladies chosen from among the subscribers; of whom one attends the sale every day from twelve to three, and three or four meet on Saturday, to look over the books, and to pay the poor people. During the two first years articles were sold for the benefit of 200 poor persons, and the receipts amounted to £.1133 11s. 4d. The last year's receipt was £.700.

There are at present sixty-three poor women, who regularly bring their work, and come every Saturday to be paid for such part as is sold; many of them are widows with large families, and some very infirm; particularly one poor woman, who employs herself in making stay-laces, and is paralytic; so much so, as to be unable even to lift her head from the pillow. Her work is remarkably neat, and well done; and she not only earns some addition to her means of subsistence, but relieves herself from the weariness of many painful hours. The articles sold consist of sets of childbed linen for the poor, shifts, shirts, stockings, gloves, gar-



ters, laces, purses, rugs, and the like. These are chiefly the work of the poor; besides which there are all kinds of fancy works, contributed by the ladies, and sold for the benefit of particular poor persons, whose names are written on each article, and who attend to receive the money; it being a rule that the poor object, for whose benefit any charitable person may wish to employ her ingenuity, should be the bearer of the work, his or her name being ticketed upon it by the donor, and should *in person* receive the money.

The plan is similar to that adopted in London; the substance of its regulations being the same, except where it has been deemed expedient to omit any part, or vary the form of them, from local circumstances, or the relative situation of the two cities. With it is connected a very useful charity, for lending out childbed linen to the poor. The School of Industry at Bath also receives assistance from it, by its affording a vent for the work of the children.

A charity box is placed at the door of the apartment; into which, to prevent the inconvenience that might arise from idle visits of curiosity, sixpence is requested to be put by those, who do not purchase any thing.

### OBSERVATIONS.

The object of this Institution (to use the words of its conductors) is "the encouragement of industry, in all descriptions of persons reduced to

“distress; by affording them a ready sale for the  
“articles, which are admitted into the Repository,  
“at the price fixed by the owners; the value  
“whereof is paid to them, without any deduction,  
“as soon as they are sold.”

This charity is very beneficial; not only in the means of acceptable employment which it offers to the poor, but in the useful occupation that it affords to the rich; converting caprice and fashion into sources of relief, and making the amusements of the idle and the young, contributory to charity and benevolence. Amid the pleasures and dissipation of Bath, it must be no small satisfaction to those parents, whose health obliges their families to be occasionally resident there, that a place of amusement of this kind should be opened for their children, and that it should be powerfully recommended by fashion:—a place, where they may, at an early age, be instructed to employ the means, and enjoy the gratification, of being useful to the poor, and of soothing and relieving their distresses. For it must occur to them, before it can be suggested, that habits of this kind, when, at an early and teachable age, they are acquired and enjoyed, will remain through life a blessing, and an ornament, to the possessor.

Particular circumstances, in Bath and London, may make this charity peculiarly proper and commendable; but there is no country town in England, where the rich may not derive pleasure, the poor receive benefit, and society in general be improved, by the imitation of this example. It is

on this account, that I have ventured, during a short stay at Bath, to prepare a statement of a few of the particulars of this charity, in the hope of making it more extensively known, and of recommending it for adoption in other places.

*6th December, 1799.*

The friendly society at Cork was formed in July 1795, by the Cork society for bettering the condition of the poor. It is placed under the guidance and direction of the Cork society for the poor, and of such benevolent members as make a certain contribution towards its funds. In this manner all interest and expense of managing the members of the friendly society are avoided, and the other incidental expenses are diminished. The general work is interesting, and the members have the permanent security for the advantage held out to them, which the poor cannot consistently expect from the generosity of friendly societies. The objects of this friendly society are confined to a provision of fund for the support of the sick, and for the support of the aged, and old age, and for their betterment. Circumstances have prevented the extension of it to widows and children. However, all ill, aged and decrepit, and of both sexes, residing within the limits of the city of Cork, above the age of fifteen and under that of sixty, are admissible into this Society. The subscription is to be paid upon admission, and during life, to be continued monthly, by each member, as follows:

## No. LXVI.

*Extract from an account of a friendly society, at Cork.*  
By LORD TEIGNMOUTH.

THE friendly society at Cork was formed in July, 1799, by the Cork society for bettering the condition of the poor. It is placed under the guardianship and direction of the Cork society for the poor, and of such honorary members as make a certain gratuitous contribution to its funds. In this manner all inconvenience and expense of meetings of the members of the friendly society are avoided, and the other incidental expenses are diminished; the general stock is increased, and the members have that permanent security for the advantages held out to them, which the poor cannot confidently expect from the generality of friendly societies.

The objects of this friendly society are confined to a provisionary fund for the support of the subscribing members in sickness, and old age, and for their decent interment. Circumstances have prevented the extension of it to widows and children. Persons however, of all ranks and descriptions, and of both sexes, residing within the limits of the city of Cork, above the age of fifteen and under that of fifty, are admissible into this Society.

The subscriptions are to be paid upon admission, and during life to be continued monthly, by each member, as follows:

	s.	d.
Under thirty years of age, -	1	1
Above thirty, and under forty,	1	4
Above forty, and under fifty,	1	9

Persons who by their age would come within one of the two last classes, are admissible into that immediately below it, on payment of one guinea and a half upon admission.

The funds of the society are open to augmentation by the contributions of the benevolent, and by prescribed forfeits in the members; viz. for neglect in payment of their monthly subscription, threepence for the first, and sixpence halfpenny for the second omission:—for soliciting charity, two shillings and eightpence halfpenny—and for intoxication, whilst receiving relief from the society, three shillings and threepence.

As the funds of the society are in the nature of shares, every member during sickness is entitled to relief for each share, and proportionably for half a share, which he or she shall have in the fund by a weekly allowance; and members above sixty, preferring an annuity to weekly payments, in sickness or infirmity, are entitled to progressive annuities during their natural lives, according to their ages. At sixty years of age, to an annuity of five pounds;—at seventy years of age, of seven pounds ten shillings;—at eighty years, of ten pounds; and at the age of ninety years or upwards, to an annuity of twelve pounds a year for life. In case of death, each member is entitled to a specific sum for the expense of his or her funeral.



The regulations of the society state *exceptions* to relief, and authorize *exclusion* from the society. In the first case, among other specified instances, no members shall be entitled to relief for any disease, distemper, or infirmity, which he or she may have had, when admitted a member ; nor for any distemper contracted by lewdness ; nor for any lameness, misfortune, or accident occasioned by quarrelling, rioting, drunkenness, or gaming ; nor if imprisoned on a charge of treason, or felony ; until legally acquitted of the same.

The penalty of exclusion is inflicted on members, who shall attempt to take any advantage, by dissembling any sickness or infirmity, or by using any kind of fraud towards the society ; or who shall neglect to pay his or her monthly payments for three successive months, or, in case of default, the prescribed forfeits ; or who shall be a notorious drunkard or gambler ; or who shall be criminally convicted. In any of which cases the person is to forfeit his or her title or claim to any part of the funds of the society.

Every person wishing to become a member of this society, must produce a certificate of his or her character, according to a prescribed rule : and every person admitted a member must, at the time of admission, subscribe an obligation, containing a promise and declaration, in all things well and truly to fulfil, keep, and observe, the rules, orders, and regulations of the society, and to promote its interest to the utmost of his power.

The funds of the society are vested in trustees,

consisting of the president, vice-presidents, and committee, for the time being, of the society established in the city of Cork, *for bettering the condition and increasing the comforts of the poor.* The direction of the society is vested in twenty-one persons, to be appointed annually by the trustees, from among the subscribing members of the *society for bettering the condition of the poor*, or from among any other public institution for the benefit of the poor, who, together with the treasurer and honorary members of this friendly society, are constituted the directors thereof.

### OBSERVATIONS.

The preceding brief account is principally extracted from a late publication at Cork, intitled "the resolutions, rules, orders, and regulations, for the government of the Cork friendly society." They appear throughout so well adapted to promote the useful and benevolent purposes of the institution, that I regret that the brevity of our reports will not permit them to be inserted at length.

They are calculated effectually to guard against the inconveniences, to which associations of this nature are sometimes liable. There are no meetings of the existing members; nor can the dissolution of the society, or any distribution of its funds, fraudulent in itself, and contrary to the true meaning of the regulations, take place, but under such restrictions, as exclude the possibility of any derangement of the society, or the misapplication of its funds. The regulations are equally calculated

to provide for the health, and to secure and improve the morals and good conduct, of the members of the society. A certificate of character is a prescribed title for admission. The regular payment of the monthly contributions is enforced by forfeits; whilst the penalty of exclusion, applies equally to prevent successive failures in payment, and to check immoral conduct. In the respectability of the gentlemen who have voluntarily undertaken the office of trustees and directors, the members of this friendly society have a solid security, that their interests will be well managed, and the laws of the association duly enforced for the benefit of all the members.

3<sup>d</sup> January, 1800.

## No. LXVII.

*Extract from an account of a provision of fuel for the poor at Lower Winchendon. By Scrope Bernard, Esq.*

THERE having been several prosecutions at the Aylesbury quarter sessions, for stealing fuel last winter, I was led to make some particular inquiries, respecting the means which the poor at Lower Winchendon had of providing fuel. I found that there was no fuel then to be sold within several miles of the place; and that, amid the distress occasioned by the long frost, a party of cottagers had joined in hiring a person, to fetch a load of pit-coal from Oxford, for their supply. In order to encourage this disposition to acquire fuel in an honest manner, and to induce the poor to burn coal instead of wood, in a country very bare of the latter article, a present was made to all this party (eight families in number) of as much more coal as they had purchased, and the carriage of the like quantity was further allowed them free of expense.—Having no grates, they had employed the village blacksmith to tack together a few iron bars by an iron rim at each end, which when raised above the hearth by loose bricks, enabled them to keep up a good fire. I went to see one of those grates: it was a foot square, quite flat, and had been made out of an old scythe by the blacksmith, at the expense of one shilling.—In this manner, some of the poorest families in the village got through the last hard winter.

But they complained of the want of faggots to light their fires, which were not to be obtained by honest means. To remedy this, against the next winter, I had three waggon loads of the small faggots called kindlers, made up from a fall of beechwood, in the Chiltern country, ten miles off, and brought to Winchendon in the summer season. And as, in September, from the state of the harvest, it was foreseen that it would be a trying winter for the poor, a vestry was called and it was proposed to them, as one mode of relief, that they should allow the poor the carriage of a limited portion of coal; which was then sold at 1s. 4d. the hundred, at the Oxford wharf. At the same time they were informed that eleven hundred faggots were provided out of the Chiltern woods, as kindlers, to assist such a plan; which it was intended to sell, much under the real value, at a penny a piece. This plan was agreed to, and the necessary quantity ordered to be fetched at the charge of the parish. A few tons were fetched before the frost set in, and were distributed at 1s. 4d. per hundred weight, with three kindlers to every hundred weight of coals, by a person residing in the centre of the parish; each family applying took a moderate quantity, such as might be supposed to contribute to their comfort, without trenching on their means of subsistence. The price of coals at Oxford had in the interim risen beyond what is here stated; but no alteration was made in the retail price on that account; the increase being defrayed out of a donation, which had been made at Christmas, applicable to this



charity. The expense of distribution, at 10*d.* per ton, was also paid out of the same fund. It had been said that the poor would not find money to purchase them, when they were brought : instead of which, out of 35 poor families belonging to the parish, 29 came with ready money, husbanded out of their scanty means, to profit with eagerness of this attention to their wants ; and among them a person who had been lately imprisoned by his master for stealing wood from his hedges. The six, who did not purchase, were, as I learnt upon inquiry, prevented by some particular circumstances, which rendered the supply unnecessary.

In this manner 29 poor families, consisting of 110 poor persons, are supplied during the present season with fuel, at an expense to the parish, aided by voluntary charity, of about three guineas per month ; being the charge for carriage, distribution, and occasional excess of price : the average wharf price of the article, which for the same period was less than five guineas, being paid by the poor themselves, with thankfulness for the advantage which they derive from this mode of purchase.

#### OBSERVATIONS.

I have been the more particular in this detail, because it exhibits, tho on a small scale, an instance of uniting parish relief with private subscription; so as to lighten the weight of both ; and I think it may sometimes be convenient that they should go hand in hand. At Whitchurch, in this county, the same kind of charity was established last winter.

It now continues by a private subscription of between £.17 and £.20, for that object, during the season: but one or two of the most opulent declined contributing: and tho disburthened of a part of the expense of the poor, shrunk from the duty of aiding such a plan, because it was voluntary.—In order therefore to prevent the covetous from entirely escaping, it seems to be better, where it can be adopted as the unanimous act of the parish, or where the manner of doing it can be made consistent with the poor laws, that the foundation should be laid by the parish in an allowance, as far as they think proper to go; and that the voluntary charity of individuals should be grafted on that stock, for the purpose of effecting a further reduction of the price.

I have often wished to bring coal into general use at Winchendon; the poor however being jealous of any new schemes, under the impression that they are more calculated for the benefit of others, than of themselves, and the farmer not being very fond of new expenses, I had judged the attempt to be vain. But the circumstances above recited having led both parties to make a trial, I believe that the one finds a great addition of comfort, and the other no great increase of expense.

The attempt to introduce proper chimnies into cottages in this neighbourhood, instead of the present spacious and airy ones with seats in the corner, has met with constant resistance; nor is it to be expected that any impression will be made on the poor inhabitants, till they have had full opportunity

of ascertaining, by observation and experience, the comforts and advantages of chimnies on a different construction. In the hope of effecting which change in their opinions, two cottage chimnies, on Count Rumford's\* principles, are now building in this village.

If we wish effectually to prevent the poor from stealing wood, and from similar acts of theft, it should be our first aim to put it perfectly in their power, to obtain on fair terms the articles necessary to their existence. When the means of life and the acquisition of food and fuel are beyond the attainment of the *industrious* labourer, the inducement to guilt, and to invading the store of his neighbour becomes so powerful, as to put the virtue and integrity of the poor man to a very severe trial.—Persons enjoying the superior advantages of education, with minds formed to habits of honour and virtue, may

\* It is rather unfortunate for the public that the *pretended improvements of Count Rumford's grates*, so pompously announced by different ironmongers, are chiefly calculated to increase the expense, and to diminish the effect, of his useful invention. When the reader visits the Royal Institution, he will see that the new grates put up there are very cheap, and have as little iron as possible about them, and that *the fire always burns against fire bricks*: the back and sides of the grate being composed of brick, which throws out heat in greater quantity, and is not subject to the disagreeable smell and bad effects of heated iron. In those shops where these improvements are carried to the greatest perfection, they will find nothing left of the benefit of Count Rumford's original invention, except the narrow throat to the chimney; and even that is not always preserved. The distinguishing features are—an abundance of polished steel,—as much iron as can be used on every side of the fire,—and a very liberal accumulation of expense. B. 3d March, 1800.

feel confident in their own powers of forbearance, even under such circumstances: but it will not follow that it is either wise, or just, to expose the cottager to so great a temptation. Where the option is not given them of acquiring in an honest manner, and in exchange for the produce of their labour, the indispensable necessities of existence, (and such is fuel in this northern climate) however we may condemn any crime which may follow, we have no great reason to be surprised at such a result; nor perhaps ought we to consider ourselves as entirely exempt from a share in the guilt.

*1st February, 1800.*

## No. LXVIII.

*Extract from an account of a society for bettering the condition of the poor at Clapham. By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.*

IT is with considerable satisfaction that I state, that "a Society for bettering the Condition of the Poor at Clapham," was established in that opulent and respectable parish in February, 1799. It consists both of ladies and gentlemen, willing to take an active part, in promoting the welfare of the poor. The objects of this society (for which the public is indebted to the labour and philanthropy of the Rev. Mr. Venn, the Rector of Clapham, Robert Barclay, Esq. and others) are *the discovery and relief of cases of real distress, the assisting and rewarding of honest industry, the detection of fraud and imposture, the discouragement of idleness and vice, and the employment of children at an early age,* so as to improve both the condition and the morals of the poor.

The members of the society meet at each other's houses, in winter, one evening in the month, and in the summer once in two months, for the purpose of conversation and communication on the preceding subjects. They have divided the parish of Clapham into eight districts, and have appointed four or more ladies and gentlemen, as visitors for each district. The duty of the visitors is to inform themselves of the *circumstances and character* of every poor person within their district; and to



meet for the purpose of acting in concert, and of becoming more acquainted with the real state of the poor ; so as to report at the general meeting every peculiar case of distress : with their opinion, as to the means of improving the conduct, and bettering the condition, of the objects of their attention. A journal was agreed to be kept of the observations of the society, and of the effects produced by its labours ; and a correspondence has been opened with the officers of the parish, so as to form a channel for the mutual communication of intelligence.

The first act of the society was to draw out an accurate list of all the poor in the parish of Clapham ; distinguishing each individual's respective occupation, family, residence, and place of legal settlement.—From this account, two distinct lists have been made out ;—one in the order of residence—the other in an alphabetical order ; and a list of the allowances granted by the parish has been obtained of the overseers. It appeared by the returns, that there were in the whole 348 families in the parish, which were likely to become objects of charitable assistance ; viz.

In the 1st district	-	-	46 families.
2d	-	-	71
3d	-	-	50
4th	-	-	52
5th	-	-	41
6th	-	-	33
7th	-	-	37
8th	-	-	18
			<hr/>
			348

Of these, 61 were single persons; 59 had wives, but no children; and the remaining 287 had wives and children; the number of their children being, upon an average, not more than two to each family. —There were in all 572 children, and the total amount of poor was 1207 persons.

For each district, a lady was appointed as sub-treasurer; whose office it was to keep the accounts of the district, and to call meetings of the visitors; no visitor having a power (except in cases of emergency) to give any material relief, but what shall be directed at a district meeting. Their accounts are passed at the general meeting. The measure of sub-dividing the districts among the visitors was soon after adopted, in some instances, with very good effect.

The rector, with the concurrence of the churchwardens and vestry, added the sacrament money, about £.100 a year, to the funds of the society. — In case of application for relief, it was recommended to the visitors to take the opportunity of gaining information respecting the character of the person applying; *as to regular attendance on public worship, the care and schooling of their children, and the industry and earnings of every branch of the family.* This information is useful to direct both the kind and the quantity of relief, so as to assist and encourage virtue and industry.

In case of any infectious disorder, the treasurer is directed to consult with the medical gentlemen of the society, concerning the most effectual means of preventing the danger of communication; and

he has authority immediately to take the necessary steps, at the expense of the society. Of the benefit of this regulation several instances have appeared : The small-pox had attacked several poor families with much violence ; some of the children, yet uninfected, were successfully inoculated at the expense of the society. A dangerous species of putrid and scarlet fever had broken out at different periods, in some of the houses of the poor ; it was prevented from spreading beyond the families in which it originated. A putrid and scarlet fever, in a neighbouring parish, was at the same time extremely fatal to the children of the poor ; and three months had elapsed, before its ravages ceased.

There is hardly any thing for the improvement and benefit of the poor, that may not be adopted and effected by such a society as that of Clapham. They came to very early resolutions to furnish the poor *gratis*, with unslacked lime to whitewash their cottages : to provide lists of the poor in the different districts ; to furnish grown up persons with suitable employment ; and to place children at school, and from thence in service ; to establish in the village a friendly society, under their own care and patronage ;—to purchase blankets to lend the industrious poor in winter ;—and that, whenever a poor married woman should deposit a weekly sum in the hands of the visitor to provide for her confinement, the society would repay it, with the addition of as much more, at the time of her lying in.

In order to provide for the sick poor such refreshments, as might be ordered by the visitors or medical

attendants, the society engaged an agent at three shillings a week. She is a middle-aged woman, not burthened with a family, not going out to washing for her livelihood ; and a person in whose cleanliness, assiduity, integrity, and skill in cookery, they and the poor can place a confidence. To her care are intrusted the stores for the relief of the sick ; consisting of sago, wine, oatmeal, &c. and also the materials for work. She has been furnished with a book of receipts for preparing refreshments for the sick, to be sent by the order of any of the visitors, she keeping a regular account of the same. It is her duty to register the names of the nurses and charwomen in the parish, who are deserving of recommendation, in order that those, who want employment, may have an opportunity of stating that they are unoccupied ; and that housekeepers, who want a nurse or helper in the house, may know who is disengaged. It is also her office, upon reference from the visitors, to make inquiries respecting the character of any person, when the visitors do not succeed in procuring satisfactory information upon the subject.—Three ladies of the society undertook to purchase for her the necessary utensils and stores, to furnish her with sufficient information and instructions, and to superintend her in the execution of her office.

For the desirable object of forming early habits of attention and industry, (there being already at Clapham, schools for children of riper age) a knitting and reading school for boys and girls under six years of age was established under the care of

one of the ladies, at the request and expense of the society. An industrious woman, who had a comfortable room adapted to the purpose, agreed to take any number of children, and at any hour that might be thought proper, to instruct them in knitting and reading; and, on Sunday, to open it as a Sunday school. For this, and her firing and all expenses, she was to be allowed five shillings a week. The school was opened in the beginning of December last with 15 boys, whose number was soon increased to 21, and the monthly account of whose work already makes an article in the minutes of the society.

In the early part of the winter the society provided blankets, to be numbered, marked, and lent to the poor, under the following regulations. 1st, That a note should be given with them, expressing the day on which they were lent, and that on which they were to be returned. 2d, That an account should be kept by the society's agent, in her book, of the number of each blanket, the person to whom lent, and the time when lent, and when returned. 3d, That the blankets lent to any poor family for the winter season, should be returned on the first of May, clean washed if required. 4th, That in cases where any infectious disorder might have prevailed in the family to which they have been lent, a discretionary power be given to the visitor to permit them to be kept. And 5th, That all the blankets, upon being returned to the society, should be baked, in order to purify them, before they are laid up in the society's store.



## OBSERVATIONS.

It is difficult to say what may not be done for the poor, or to what degree their religious and moral habits, and their domestic comforts and enjoyments, may not be increased, by the formation, in every large parish in England, of societies like that at Clapham : societies which, without the incumbrance of an establishment, give to the rich all the power and effect of co-operation ; which offer to the poor every incitement to virtue and industry ; and, while they relieve the distressed and unfortunate, while they educate the young and comfort the aged, impress on the minds of all a just sense of the value of character, and of moral and religious habits, and render them useful to themselves and to the community.

It is no small merit in the society at Clapham, that it has afforded satisfactory evidence that the system of *dividing the poor into districts*, and of thereby diminishing labour by arrangement of attention, (a system recommended by the precepts of Count Rumford, and by the example of Hamburgh) is applicable and practicable in every parish in England. However the mind may be intimidated by the difficulties which must embarrass the attempt of an individual, to improve the habits and increase the comforts of a whole parish, or of a larger district ; there are very few of our countrymen, and still fewer, I trust, of our fair countrywomen, who would, at any period, shrink from the duty of occasionally visiting their eight or ten adjoining

cottagers ; and of attending a sociable monthly meeting of their friends and acquaintance, in order to consider how their poor neighbours might be made more happy and virtuous in themselves, and more useful to the neighbourhood.

This mode of keeping down the poor-rates, of preventing crimes, and of encouraging honesty, industry, and economy, will never be very irksome in the detail, while it only occasionally occupies a tedious hour, and promotes a pleasant and satisfactory monthly meeting of the neighbourhood. This, when directed “ to the discovery and relief of cases “ of real distress,—to the assisting and rewarding “ of honest industry,—to the detection of fraud “ and imposture,—to the discouragement of idleness and vice,—to the employment of children “ in early habits of industry,—and to whatever “ has a tendency to improve the condition and “ morals of the poor,” (and these are the declared objects of the society at Clapham) must, except in a very debased state indeed, afford satisfactory occupation to every human being ;—to the miser, in the improvement of his property,—to the anxious mind, in the security of it,—to the sensualist, in enjoyment,—and to the pious and benevolent, in the promotion of the virtue and happiness of their fellow creatures.

This society is directed by principles different from those which too frequently actuate the parochial overseer. The great object of the society is the improvement of the poor. They apply leisure, talents, information, and every power which

they derive from instruction, situation, and property, for the assistance of those who do not possess the same advantages; not with the petty and unstable object of affording capricious or momentary relief; but in the well founded hope of conferring permanent benefit, by increasing their resources, by improving their principles, and encouraging them in habits of industry, sobriety, and frugality.

Charity of this kind has not only the advantage of increased effect by co-operation, and of impartial benevolence in embracing all objects within the district, in proportion to their claims and necessities; but also of acting upon collective information, and of directing joint exertions systematically, and to their proper end. The inquiry respecting the industry, economy, and character of the poor, must necessarily increase the value and prevalence of those virtues, at the same time that it enables the individual to direct his relief most effectually to the advantage of the sufferer.—If it is temporary distress occasioned by sickness, provision is made for their immediate comfort and speedy recovery; and, while the ordinary parochial fund is resorted to in the usual way, the society adds the lesser comforts, and those aids to recovery, which parish relief can never completely afford: such is a nurse, whose employment may perhaps be as much charity to her, as to the sick on whom she attends; whose care, where quiet is peculiarly necessary, may remove some of the children during the day, and place them with a neighbour or friend; and

whose attention may prevent the patient from returning to hard labour, before his strength is sufficiently recruited and confirmed.

In checking the progress of infectious disorders, a society like that of Clapham may be of infinite service. It is the duty of the visitor in that case immediately to inform the treasurer, who is authorized to take medical advice, as to the most effectual means of stopping the contagion. A very trifling sum, seasonably expended in the removal and care of the infected person, and in purifying and whitewashing his habitation, may save thousands\* of useful lives, and prevent an irretrievable loss, and insupportable expense to the parish.

For a period when the weaker and more helpless sex stand in great need of kindness and assistance, the society has made a very acceptable provision, by doubling the sum which may be deposited for the assistance of any poor woman at her lying in. Besides this, the placing, at such a time, some of their children at school, and providing a nurse, may be at times an act of very useful and necessary charity.

The forming of children to early habits of industry, is another primary object of this society; which adopts the principle that every child, above

\* It appears from several publications at Manchester, that all the infectious fevers, which have of late been prevalent in that neighbourhood, originated in *individual infection*; and might have been stopped by medical care at first, with very little trouble or expense.

mere imbecility, should produce something towards its own support. If what it can produce is *only a penny a week*, even that ought not to be neglected. The habit of saving small sums is the foundation of economy ; and constant occupation is one grand preservative from vice. For this purpose, it is of great moment to find regular employment for the poor ; and it is much to be regretted that processes for the abridgment of labour have, in many parts of the kingdom, deprived the poor of the means of industry.

The habit of cleanliness, producing as it does, many valuable moral virtues, is an important effect of this society. Another is, the institution of friendly societies under their immediate care and patronage ; and particularly such a one as may afford relief to women as well as to men ; and, with the contributory aid of the rich, secure liberal and *certain* advantages to the members. Besides this, the encouraging of the poor to buy for ready money, and the donation of rewards to cottagers for the support of large families, and for the degree of industry and sobriety they may possess, and for other commendable points of character, may, with attention and discretion, be of the greatest use in improving the condition, not only of the poor, but of the neighbourhood and of the community at large.

Whatever have been the advantages to the poor, the beneficial effects produced by such a society upon the rich, are likely to be equally great. Ladies who have not been accustomed to inquire



personally into the state of their necessitous neighbours, may thus be excited to be extremely active in assisting them, and in devising the best methods of doing them good. When the rich are induced to visit the families of labourers, and to make the comparison between their own comforts and those of others, they receive from such occupation much mental improvement, and become properly grateful for their own benefits and situation in society. It may then become necessary to caution them against too warm and liberal an application of their charity, and against that *degree* and *species* of benevolence, which, instead of aiding and instructing the poor to help themselves, tends to render them more helpless and hopeless. It is then very important to hold up to constant view the wise and excellent maxims adopted at Ham-  
burgh; "THAT IF THE MANNER IN WHICH  
"RELIEF IS GIVEN BE NOT A SPUR TO IN-  
"DUSTRY, IT BECOMES IN EFFECT A PRE-  
"MIUM TO SLOTH AND PROFLIGACY; and  
"that, if the charitable or parochial support of  
"an idle person exceeds what any industrious  
"person in the same circumstances can earn, *idle-*  
"*ness* will become more profitable than *industry*,  
"and *beggary* a better trade than the *workshop*."

Such is the account compiled from the minutes of the society, and such the observations submitted to the consideration of the public; observations, whereof much is extracted from the proposal or introductory address of the treasurer, the Rev. Mr. Venn; to whose active zeal, and persevering

industry, much of the success and progress of the society at Clapham is to be imputed; a society, the example of which, I trust, will be soon followed in every part of the kingdom.

15th February, 1800.

## No. LXIX.

*Extract from an account of Mr. DALE's cotton mills at New Lanerk, in Scotland. By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.*

THE cotton mills at New Lanerk in the county of Lanerk in Scotland, are situate in a beautiful and romantic amphitheatre, near the high road between Carlisle and Glasgow. The rapid stream of the Clyde supplies that abundance of water, which is the powerful operator of the machinery. For the purpose of conveying and directing its power, a subterraneous aqueduct is cut for many hundred yards through the solid rock. The first mill, in length 154 feet, was originally erected in 1785; and, having been burnt down, was rebuilt in 1789. The second is exactly of the same dimensions; the third is 130 feet, and the fourth 156 feet, in length.

The two first mills contain 12,000 spindles for spinning *water twist*; the other two are occupied by *Jennys*, for spinning *mule yarn*.—The village of New Lanerk owes its existence to the erection of these mills. It consists of neat substantial houses; forming two streets about half a mile in length, and broad, regular, and clean. Near the centre of the village are the mills; and opposite to them, a neat mansion, the occasional residence of Mr. Dale, the proprietor, and of his principal manager. The village, consisting chiefly of Highlanders from

the counties of Argyle, Caithness, and Inverness, contains about 1,500 inhabitants; of whom all who are capable of work are employed in and about the mills. Of these, there are 500 children who are entirely fed, clothed, and educated by Mr. Dale. The others lodge with their parents in the village, and have a weekly allowance for their work.

The healthy and pleasurable appearance of these children has frequently attracted the attention of the traveller. Peculiar regulations, adopted by Mr. Dale for the preservation of the health and morals of those under his protection, have made this striking difference between his manufactory and many other similar undertakings in this kingdom; so that while some other mills must be regarded as seminaries of vice, and sources of disease, those at Lanerk are so peculiarly exempt from these objections, that out of near 3,000 children employed in these mills during a period of 12 years, from 1785 to 1797, *only fourteen* have died; and *not one has been the object of judicial punishment*.

In order to supply that first necessary of life, pure and fresh air, the windows of the manufactory are frequently opened; and in summer there are air holes left under every other window.—Cleanliness is another great object of attention. The children wash themselves before they go to work, and also after it before they appear in the schools. The floors and the machinery are washed once a week with hot water; and the ceilings and walls, twice a year, with unslacked lime.—The children

who reside in the house, and who have their maintenance in lieu of wages, are lodged in six large airy apartments. The boys and girls are kept *distinctly apart*; not only in the hours of rest and refreshment, but during the time of occupation.— They sleep on cast-iron bedsteads, the bed-tick filled with straw, which is changed regularly every month. The bedrooms are swept, and the windows thrown open every morning, and kept open all the day. Many of the children have contrived to provide themselves with boxes with locks; in which they keep their books and their little property. Their upper clothing in summer is cotton, which is washed once a fortnight. In winter the boys are dressed in woollen; and, as well as the girls, have dress suits for Sundays.

For dinner they have seven ounces each of fresh beef with barley broth, or alternately five ounces of cheese; and a plentiful allowance of potatoes, or barley bread. This part of the table diet is seldom varied; except in winter by a dinner of fresh herrings, as a change. Their breakfast and supper consist of oatmeal porridge, with the addition of milk in summer; and, during the winter, with a sauce made of molasses and beer.

Seven o'clock is the hour of supper; soon after which (*for that pernicious practice, called night-work, is entirely excluded from these mills*) the schools commence, and continue till nine o'clock. Mr. Dale has engaged three regular masters, who instruct the lesser children during the day. In the evening they are assisted by seven others, one of



whom teaches writing. There is likewise a woman to teach the girls sewing, and another person who occasionally gives lessons in church music. The masters preside over the boys' dinner table. On Sundays they conduct them to the place of divine worship; and, in the evening of Sunday, attend to assist and improve them, by religious and moral information.

In the year 1791, a vessel carrying emigrants to America, from the isle of Skye, was driven by stress of weather into Greenock, and about 200 persons were put on shore in a very destitute situation. Mr. Dale offered them all immediate employment; which the greater part accepted. Soon after he notified to the people of the Highlands and the Hebrides, the degree of encouragement which he would give to families at the cotton mills; and undertook to provide houses for 200 families. These were finished in 1793: in consequence of which a considerable number of Highlanders have taken up their residence at New Lanerk. Several families also, who were last year driven from Ireland, have found immediate employment here.\*

### OBSERVATIONS.

Amid the numerous variety of cotton mills, that have been erected in this kingdom, I sincerely wish it were in my power to shew many examples, like those of Mr. Dale's mills at Lanerk. Some few of these manufactories have been distinguished for

\* For the particulars of this account I am indebted to Mr. Professor Garnett of the Royal Institution.

attention to health and cleanliness, and many of them for very curious mechanism, and ingenious inventions, by which the operations are produced and facilitated ; but I have not had the good fortune to find in any (tho I doubt not but it may exist in some instances) that proper degree of attention, which ought to be paid to the morals and instruction of the children. *Where boys and girls are indiscriminately employed at all hours, not only of the day, but of the night, and are mingled together without any advantage of education, without benefit of religious instruction or moral principle, and without any friend to advise or protect them, can we be astonished at their plunging in a very early age, and almost during childhood, in every wretched and disgusting species of debauchery? Can we be surprised that our numerous and crowded manufactories should be the nurseries of thieves and prostitutes ; sent out at an early age to their own ruin, and to the annoyance of the kingdom, and of every individual of which it is composed ?*

Such, however, is the present spirit and speculation of this country, that wherever the demon of gain raises his banner, talents and exertion are sure to follow it. Cotton mills are as yet but in their infancy. Whilst great profits and immense fortunes are to be made by them, we know they must rapidly increase ; and it is too obvious that, without public attention, they must be destructive of the moral and religious principles of the great mass of the people. The effect of this species of abridgement of labour is so great, that 100 persons in a

cotton mill, will do more spinning, and that of ten times the fineness, and of a superior quality to what can be produced by 3000 of the very best spinners by hand. In consequence of this, cotton mills have almost entirely deprived the cottager's wife and children of these means of domestic industry. The profit of spinning by hand is so reduced, that whole districts of cottagers' families have been obliged to give it up, and apply for relief to the parish.

Our national and individual increase of wealth, from the manufacture of cotton, has been attended with so much injury to the health and morals of the poor, and is so utterly destructive of that which constitutes the essential and fundamental virtue of the female character, that if I am not permitted to suggest a doubt, whether it would not have been better for us *that cotton mills had never been erected in this island*, I may at least express an anxious wish, that such regulations may be adopted and enforced, as shall diminish, if not entirely remove, the injurious and pernicious effects which must otherwise attend them.

With this view I will lay before the reader an outline of some regulations, which impelled by zeal, but very little presuming on personal knowledge of the subject, I venture to submit to the consideration of the public: meaning to apply my observations, not merely to cotton mills, but to all other manufactories under similar circumstances: and particularly to those, in which children are engaged as apprentices.

In the first place, I conceive that some general

and public attention ought to be paid to the moral and religious improvement of so numerous a class of our fellow subjects: and that the most essential parts of their education ought not entirely to depend on the caprice, or disposition, of their respective masters; especially as many of them have been apprenticed by lots from distant counties, and have been deserted by those, whose duty it was to have protected them. In addition to this, something should also be done for the benefit of these children, to instruct and prepare them to support themselves in life, without thievery and prostitution, when the period of their apprenticeship expires at the age of 16.

It seems to me to be also expedient, that the age and conditions of apprenticeship be regulated;—that the hours of work be limited, and *night-work* (so destructive to health and morals) entirely excluded;—that a total separation take place between the boys and the girls;—that the works be liable to the periodical inspection of the magistrates, who should have power to order the regular white-washing and cleaning, and the warming and ventilating of the work-rooms; and who should receive quarterly or monthly reports, from each manufactory, of the number, the health, and the respective ages, of all the apprentices and other persons employed there.

Such are the regulations, which, upon a cursory view of the subject, appear to be proper, and to have a tendency to meliorate the condition, and to preserve the morals, of these unfortunate and

neglected children. Other correctives and remedies may probably occur to those who possess more practical knowledge of the subject. At present I have only to add that, as far as my inquiries have extended, I have reason to be satisfied, that almost all the owners of cotton mills will concur in thinking, that the preceding, or some similar regulations *ought to be enforced* by the legislature, for the protection of the children employed in those mills. In order therefore that something practicable and effectual may be done, without injury to the interest of the manufacurers, I would suggest that the outline of any regulations proposed to be adopted, should be first communicated to them, so that they might state any objections, or amendments; and after a proper attention shall have been paid to their observations, I venture boldly to express my confidence, that the measures will have the support of every one, who desires to promote the welfare and happiness of his fellow creatures, and the essential interests of virtue, morality, and religion, in this favoured country.

24th February, 1800.



## APPENDIX.

### No. I.

*Copy of a circular Letter from the BISHOP of DURHAM to the Magistrates of the County Palatine of Durham.*

*Oct. 30th, 1799.*

A LONG series of wet and unseasonable weather has greatly affected the crops of corn this year, particularly in the northern counties, and in some other parts of England, where the coldness of the soil, and the humidity of the atmosphere, are unfavourable to the ripening of wheat. I therefore conceive it to be the duty of the other classes of society in this kingdom, to take speedy and effectual measures for diminishing and preventing, as far as lies in their power, the distress which the poor might otherwise be subjected to, in the course of the ensuing winter, from the scarcity, and consequent high price, of a very material article of life to all, but especially to them.—Far from apprehending any alarm or inconvenience from the adoption of proper measures to alleviate this impending evil, it appears to me that the best method of preventing anxiety, and of quieting the minds of the poor, will be for the rest of their fellow subjects to take immediate steps for their relief. When the cottager finds the charitable and Christian care of his more opulent neighbours anticipating his

wants, and providing for his comforts, it is impossible but his apprehensions must be lessened, at the same time that his good habits and orderly dispositions will be augmented.

In addressing you upon this subject, I think it necessary to mention a common error, with regard to the relief of the poor in times of scarcity; and to state to you, in strong and unqualified language, that whenever the produce of a country, and the quantity of food, are insufficient for *all* the inhabitants, nothing less than an additional supply of food from abroad, or an *an improved economy in the use and application of it*, can give substantial relief. We deceive ourselves, and rather do prejudice than afford assistance to the general condition of the poor, by attempting to relieve them in any other way.—There is nothing more benevolent in intention, more plausible in theory, or more desirable in effect, than, upon a scarcity, that the contributions of the wealthy should supply a fund for purchasing bread and meat to be given to *all the poor of every description*; and to be distributed with such bounty and impartiality, as to relieve *all* their distresses. But, however abundant the funds of charity might be, the experience of a short time would prove that such a well meant, but unadvised, plan could only increase the scarcity, and enhance the price of provisions, to the essential injury of the poor, as well as of all the other inhabitants of the country; and that, while it was affording a momentary supply, it must operate to diminish prematurely the common stock; and with it the means and subsistence,

not only of the other classes, but of the very persons, whose benefit and support was the great object in view.

With respect to obtaining an increase of food by importation, so far as not prevented by the effects of the present season upon other countries, the wisdom and attention of government have already made some provision; and it may be hoped, that the energy and enterprise of individuals will do the rest. The two great articles, most to be desired, are wheat and rice; the one as adapted to the peculiar habits of the English, and the other as calculated, when properly prepared, to correct the bad consequences which attend the use of corn grown in a wet season.

In the improved management of those means of subsistence which providence hath bestowed upon us, much is to be done for the well-being and increased comfort of the poor; and in this, as in every thing else, a large portion of the operative effect of precept and exhortation will depend upon the efficacy of example. The indiscriminate praise of hospitality and generosity is frequently given to wasteful habits in the houses of the opulent. In plentiful seasons such unmerited commendation may pass unnoticed, and uncensured; but during periods of scarcity, when the pressure of distress bears heavy on the needy and the destitute, I would request all the other orders of society to consider, how much injury they may do to their necessitous brethren, by actual waste, and by pernicious example: I would request them to consider

that, when the means of subsistence are barely adequate to the demands of population, every portion of food, that is wasted within their houses, occasions the privation of the support of life to one at least of their fellow creatures.

It is on this principle, that I earnestly recommend in private houses, and also in all public establishments, the economy of food ; particularly in the use of wheat, which the habits of the English cottager have now made so necessary an article of life. Other individuals, and those who are maintained in public establishments, do, in general, possess more variety, and a greater proportion of nourishing food, than the cottager ; and can therefore with more facility, and less self-denial, adopt the use of other substitutes for wheat flour ; and their example will be of incalculable service in reconciling the cottager to that which is at present essential to his own welfare.

The application of the true principles of relief, and the forming and arranging of the necessary measures for the support and comfort of the poor in the county palatine of Durham during the ensuing season, I will not anticipate at present, but leave as a subject of future consideration. I ought not, however, to omit observing that in some instances, in which the manufacturer has very recently suffered by the pressure of the times, at Birmingham, Spitalfields, Clerkenwell, and some other places, the supply of meat soups, thickened with pease, Scotch barley, rice, or meal, and sold to the housekeeper a little under prime cost, has

had the advantage of giving them more real comfort, and more wholesome nourishment, than could have been afforded at four times the expenditure; and at the same time has operated generally to diminish the prejudicial effects of scarcity.

An account of some of these charities, and of the manner in which they have been conducted, may be found in the *First Volume of the Reports of the Society for bettering the Condition and increasing the Comforts of the Poor*, and in a cheap publication of the same Society, intituled "*Information for Overseers*," published with a view to general circulation. In the last of these are contained some experimental observations on rice;\* which is a

\* The Bishop has since had it in his power to afford great relief to the cottagers in his neighbourhood, by dressing rice for them, and selling it at a penny for 2 lb. 6 oz.; which is something under prime cost. The poor, to the amount of near 400, have from the first purchased it very thankfully; and find that the penny, so applied, goes above twice as far as a pennyworth of bread, and affords them better and more acceptable food. The receipt is as follows.

Rice	-	-	-	24 lb.	0
Hog's fat	-	-	-	1	8 oz.
Allspice	-	-	-	0	1
Salt	-	-	-	0	4
Water, 17 gallons					
Produce	-	-	-	195 lb.	

The rice is put into the boiler when the water is boiling. Then the water is skimmed, and the fat (being previously cut into very small thin strips) is added, and it continues boiling twenty minutes. The fire is then taken out of the grate, and the allspice and salt are added; the doors of the fire-place and ash hole being quite shut. The whole then remains in the boiler an hour and a quarter, after the fire is taken out; the cover is also kept very close. It is then put in an earthen pan, and covered up with a wooden cover, until it is sold.—When prepared for eating, it should be gradually warmed and stirred.—This *savoury rice* has (with



very useful and nutritive substitute for flour, and may be so prepared as to act as a preservative against those putrid and epidemical disorders, which are always to be apprehended from the inferior quality of corn and potatoes, in a wet and unfavourable season. Difficulties must ever be expected to attend the introduction of new modes of diet among any set of men; but if those who have country residences, and possess liberality, information, and benevolence, (which I am persuaded are the characteristics of the gentlemen of the county palatine of Durham,) will do what a nobleman is doing in the county of Warwick,—dress these articles for their own table, supply their poor neighbours with a part of them, and then give them an account of the mode of preparation and expense, I am confident there will be little difficulty in the gradual introduction of them.

In order to bring forward the consideration of the subject, I conceive it will be proper that a meeting should be had of those, who may find it not inconvenient to attend, “for the purpose of adopting such measures as may be most for the real benefit of the poor in general, and may tend to diminish the scarcity, and keep down the price of provisions.” And that a general committee should be elected for considering the general objects; and subscriptions opened, and local com-

the addition of a little more salt and allspice) been made at the St. Giles's soup-house, and sold to the poor at a penny for the quart measure. 1350 quarts of it have been this day sold at the soup-house. B. 22d May, 1800.

mittees formed, for the different districts; leaving the mode of relief to be afterwards arranged, and applied, according to the nature and urgency of the case.

Having so far extended my observations upon this most interesting subject, I have only to add my firm conviction, that in this, as in every other dispensation of Providence, if we are not unmindful and neglectful of our own duty, we shall find every thing working for our good; and that this temporary scarcity may eventually be the instrument of giving improved means of life, and increased comfort to a very numerous and deserving class of our fellow creatures, and fellow subjects; and of disseminating mutual good will and esteem, and pure and active christian charity, among all the members of society.

I am, with much regard,

Your obedient humble Servant,

S. DUNELM.

## No. II.

DR. HAYGARTH'S RULES TO PREVENT  
INFECTIOUS FEVERS.

*It may be proper previously to observe, that the poison of a contagious fever, in a small, close and dirty room, infects a very great proportion of mankind; not less than 26 out of 27, or a still higher proportion; but in a large, airy, clean apartment, even putrid fevers are seldom or never infectious. When this poisonous vapour is much diluted with fresh air, it is not noxious.—From a large collection, and an attentive consideration, of facts relative to this distemper, have been formed the following Rules.*

1. As safety from dangers entirely depends on cleanliness and fresh air, the room door of a patient ill of an infectious fever, especially in the habitations of the poor, should never be shut; a window in it, during the day, ought to be frequently opened. Such regulations would be highly useful, both to the patient and nurses; but are particularly important, previous to the arrival of any visitor.

2. The bed curtains should never be close drawn round the patient; but only on the side next the light, so as to shade the face.

3. Dirty clothes, utensils, &c. should be frequently changed, immediately immersed in cold water, and washed clean when taken out of it.

4. All discharges from the patient should be

Instantly removed. The floor near the patient's bed should be rubbed clean every day with a wet mop, or cloth.

5. The air in a sick room has, at the same time, a more infectious quality in some parts of it than in others. Visitors and attendants should avoid the current of the patient's breath,—the air which ascends from his body, especially if the bed curtains be closed,—and the vapour arising from all evacuations. When medical or other duties require a visitor to be placed in these situations of danger, infection may be frequently prevented by a temporary suspension of respiration.

6. Visitors should not go into an infectious chamber with an empty stomach; and in doubtful circumstances, on coming out, they should blow from the nose, and spit from the mouth, any infectious poison—which may have been drawn in by the breath, and may adhere to those passages.

*23d Jan. 1800.*

N. B. The preceding Rules have been extracted from a manuscript of Dr. Haygarth's, with his permission. They are intended to enable medical and clerical visitors of the sick to perform their important duties with safety to themselves, and are printed upon a separate sheet, by the Society, with a view to their being distributed, so that a printed copy may be put up in every house where there is an infectious fever. They may be had at Hatchard's, 173, Piccadilly.

## No. III.

*We have added to the Appendix the following Letter, suggesting a Mode of preserving Potatoes; in the hope that it may be of particular use in the present Season. It is published on a separate sheet by the Society, and may be had at Hatchard's, 173, Piccadilly.*

*Berners-street, 11th Jan. 1800.*

MY DEAR SIR,

IN compliance with your request, expressed at the meeting of the Society for bettering the Condition of the Poor, I herewith send you my simple but effectual mode of preserving Potatoes without fire, sweet and good, for a great length of time.

I have, as yet, only tried it upon small quantities of Potatoes in my own family; and I had intended deferring the publication of any account of it, until I had ascertained, by an apparatus I have ordered to be made, the expense and effects of the operation on a great scale. But your request, and the peculiar circumstances of the present season, added to the existing apprehension that the last year's crop of Potatoes is not calculated for keeping, induce me to give some account of the experiments I have already made; and to express my hope that country gentlemen and farmers may be persuaded to try, whether, on a bad day, they cannot advantageously employ their poor neighbours, in this mode of preserving from decay, so material an article of food.



The first of the two processes which I have adopted is as follows.—I took three pounds and a half of Potatoes, and had them peeled and rasped, and put them in a coarse cloth between two clean boards in a napkin press, and pressed them into a dry cake, hardly so thick as a very thin cheese. I then placed the cake on a shelf, as I should an oil cake, to dry. There was about a quart of juice expressed from the Potatoes. To this I added the same quantity of cold water; and in about an hour it deposited rather more than sixty grains of very white starch, or flour, fit to make fine pastry.

The cake, which I produced at the meeting of the society, and which you observed to be perfectly sweet, was prepared in the preceding manner, so long ago as the year 1797. In size it occupied a sixth of the compass of the Potatoes. In weight it lost about two-thirds by the process, but upon being drest, either by steam or otherwise, the cake will produce very nearly the same weight and quantity of food, as three pounds and a half of Potatoes, properly dressed for table, would do. I should observe, that I have lately prepared in this way some Potatoes, that were quite frozen, and that the cake is now perfectly sweet. Some of the same Potatoes that were left, and nor pressed, were rotten and spoiled in a few days.

The other mode of preparation is what I very lately tried in your presence.—I took five pounds of Potatoes, and without peeling them, had them well cleaned, and pounded in a mortar; and put them into a small wine press, and pressed them into

a thin cake ; completing the process as before.—  
The cake produced in this way appears to be sweet and wholesome ; but it has not that *clean white* which the other cakes have ; nor has there been sufficient time to ascertain, whether it will keep\* as well as that made of the peeled potatoes.

I have conceived that the first and most material thing, is to ascertain the mode of preparation, and its effects in preserving the vegetable. Processes for abridging labour are so speedily invented and completed in England, that there can be little apprehension, but the mere mechanical process will very soon be made perfect, and adapted to general use. Upon the invention itself, I trust it will not be too much to say, that if its benefit was confined to supplying the Navy of Great Britain, in every station of the globe, with abundance of this wholesome and nutritive vegetable, it would be an object of no small moment ; but when it is considered, that it may be the means of saving, in an abundant season, for a time of scarcity, and of preserving for years, an article of food so important, and so subject to decay ; that the Potatoe so prepared may be packed in one-sixth its former space, and supply not only our navy, but our manufacturers, and our soldiers at home and abroad ; and that it may afford acceptable employment, within doors, for the poor, during the severest part of the winter, it will appear to be deserving of great attention.

\* This cake has not kept well ; probably on account of there being defective specks in the Potatoes which had suffered by the frost, rather than from the circumstance of their not having been peeled. 20th Jan. 1800.

With regard to the process, I have to observe, that tho the peeling of the Potatoes is not absolutely necessary, yet it greatly improves the cake; and that the clearing them from all discoloured and frost-bitten specks appears to be necessary. I have used the mode of rasping or pounding them; but, upon a large scale, grinding them would probably be an easier operation; unless the instrument applied in the West Indies for rasping Cassada bread should be made use of, which is cheap and simple, and is likely to answer the purpose. With a very powerful machine, I conceive that the cakes might be made at once, by merely pressing the Potatoes, without any previous preparation. As to the means of pressing them, a common cyder press might be used; or a cheese press, with the advantage of a lever to increase the power.

With great esteem and regard,

I am, Dear Sir,

Your faithful and obedient Servant,

LANGFORD MILLINGTON.

*Thomas Bernard, Esq.*

## No. IV.

## ADVICE TO THE POOR.

*The following is extracted from a paper written by Dr. Ferriar, and addressed to the poor of Manchester. As it contains very useful information for the poor, and particularly for those in manufacturing and other populous towns, it is, with Dr. Ferriar's permission, inserted in the Appendix.*

**A**VOID living in damp cellars: they destroy your constitutions, and shorten your lives. No temptation of low rents can counterbalance their ill effects. You are apt to crowd into the cellars of new buildings, supposing them to be clean. This is a fatal mistake. A new house is always damp for two years, and the cellars, which you inhabit under them, are generally as moist as the bottom of a well. In such places, you are liable to bad fevers, which often throw the patient into a decline, and you are apt to get rheumatic complaints, that continue for a long time, and disable you from working.

If you cannot help taking a cellar, be attentive to have all the windows put in good repair before you venture into it; and, if possible, get it white-washed. If you attempt to live in a cellar with broken windows, colds and fevers will be the certain consequences.

In many parts of the town you sleep in back rooms, behind the front cellar; rooms, which are

dark, and have no proper circulation of air. It would be much more healthy to sleep in the front part: at least, when you have large families, which is often the case, you ought to divide them, and not crowd the whole together in the back cellar.

Keep your persons and houses as clean as your employments will permit: and do not regret the loss of an hour's wages, when your time is occupied in attending to cleanliness. It is better to give up a little time occasionally in order to keep your houses neat, than to see your whole family lying sick, in consequence of working constantly, without cleaning. It would be of great service, if you could contrive to air your beds and bed-clothes out of doors, once or twice a week.

Always wash your children from head to foot with cold water, before you send them to work in the morning. Take care to keep them dry in their feet, and never allow them to go to work, without giving them their breakfast, tho you should have nothing for them but a crust of bread, and a little water. Children who get wet feet, when they go out early fasting, seldom escape fevers or severe colds.

If you know that any of your neighbours are in a starving condition, apply to some opulent persons in the neighbourhood; get them recommended to the overseer; or, if they are sick, to the infirmary.\*

\* I add a note upon a subject not wholly foreign to that of this paper. — In the debate on the dog tax in 1796, it was stated in the House of Commons, that forty cases of *hydrophobia* had occurred in the Manchester infirmary within a fortnight. This was not correct: but by a publication of



Want of necessary food produces bad fevers ; and many of you may suffer from neglecting poor distressed persons, whom timely relief would have preserved from the disease.

Therefore when you know, or have reason to believe, that any of your neighbours are afflicted with fevers, and that they have not taken care to procure the assistance afforded by the infirmary, you ought, both from a regard to them, and to yourselves, to give immediate information.

You ought to be very cautious in purchasing old clothes, or second-hand furniture ; as they may be brought from houses infected with fever ; and you may introduce the infection with them into your own dwellings. Every article of this kind ought to be stoved, or ventilated, before it is admitted into your houses.

Your sick neighbours, when the fever gets into

Mr Simmons, surgeon of the infirmary, it appears that there were, at that time, a considerable number, probably upwards of forty, who applied at the infirmary, having been bitten by mad dogs ; *nine such patients having applied in the course of one morning ; BUT THAT THEY ALL ESCAPED THE DISEASE, simply by the application of the KALI PURUM to the wounded parts* Mr. Simmons observes that, for twenty years, he has had experience of the success attending the application of this caustic, in wounds inflicted by the bite of mad animals, or of animals supposed to be mad ; and in no one instance had *hydrophobia* followed, after the caustic had been applied. It is said to have been used in the Manchester infirmary for near fifty years, with uniform success. It may be applied either alone, or jointly with other means ; and not only in superficial, but in deep wounds ; taking care to induce a slough proportioned to the depth and extent of the wound, so as to leave no doubt of having penetrated to the very bottom. This is extracted from Dr. Ferriar's Medical Histories and Reflections : vol. iii. p. 220.

their houses, may often require assistance from you. It would be cruel to refuse them, yet it is hard that you should be obliged to expose your health, and that of your family. You ought never to visit them from idle curiosity. But when they require your help in making their beds, washing, or turning the sick, you may preserve yourselves from being infected,\* by tying a handkerchief across your face, just below the eyes; to prevent the exhalations, from the bodies of the sick, from entering your mouth and nostrils. As soon as you return to your own house, wash your hands and face in cold water; and avoid touching any of your family, for half, or three quarters of an hour.

Your health will always be materially injured by the following circumstances;—living in small back buildings, adjoining to the open vaults of privies;—or in cellars, where the streets are not properly soughed, or drained;—or in narrow bye streets, where sheep are slaughtered, and where the blood and garbage are allowed to stagnate and corrupt;—and perhaps, more than all, by living crowded together, in dirty lodging houses, where you cannot have the common comforts of light and air.

It should be unnecessary to remind you, that much sickness is occasioned among you, by passing your evenings at alehouses, or in strolling about the streets, or in the fields adjoining to the town. Perhaps those who are most apt to expose themselves in this manner, would pay little attention to

\* See Dr. Haygarth's Rules to prevent infectious Fevers: No. II. of this Appendix.

dissuasive arguments of any kind. However, those who feel an interest in your welfare, cannot omit making the remark.

There is another subject of great importance to you, on which you seem to want information. A great number of children die of the natural small-pox, almost every year. This mortality must be imputed in a great degree to your own negligence; for the faculty at the infirmary offer to inoculate your children, and give public notice of the proper time for making your application, twice a year. The next period for inoculation will be in March; the succeeding period in September. The chance of recovery, from the small-pox received by inoculation, is so much greater than the chance of recovery from the natural kind, that you ought to consider yourselves as performing a duty to your children, and to the public, in bringing those who have not yet had the small-pox, to be inoculated at the infirmary.

You ought to be informed, that there is scarcely any thing more injurious to the health of children, than allowing them to work *at night* in the cotton mills. It may not always be in your power to prevent their being employed in this manner; but you should be made acquainted with the danger to which you expose them. There is no hazard incurred by their working during the day, in *clean*, well-managed cotton-mills.

It is also proper to inform you, that you may be infected with fevers, by working in the same place with persons who have just recovered from fevers;

or by people who come from infected houses, where they are at no pains to keep themselves clean. It is a fact well known to this Board, that infectious fevers have been conveyed from Manchester to neighbouring towns, and cotton mills, by persons going from infected houses. You had better collect something among yourselves, to support such persons for a fortnight after their recovery, than expose yourselves to the risk of catching a fever, by their returning too early to work.

People who are discharged from the fever ward, bring no infection out with them ; their clothes being aired and cleaned, during their stay in the house of recovery.

## No. V.

*Copy of a Letter from COUNT RUMFORD to the  
Rev. Dr. MAJENDIE, of Windsor.*

REV. SIR, *Brompton row, Dec. 5th, 1799.*

MR. ATKINSON, who brought your's to me of yesterday's date, will be the bearer of this letter. He is a young man of good character, and considerable talents; and I believe you will find him intelligent, and well informed in the business in which you are desirous of employing him.

In answer to the questions you have done me the honour to propose to me respecting the means that can be used with the fairest prospect of success, for relieving the distresses to which the poor are exposed, in consequence of the present scarcity of provisions, I would take the liberty to say, that in my opinion the providing of food for them in public kitchens, and selling it to them at such low price as they can afford to pay for it, would be the best method that could be adopted for that purpose; for, besides being an effectual relief to the poor in the moment of difficulty and distress, if in preparing this food care be taken to economize costly and scarce ingredients (which with due attention may be done to a surprising degree) the establishment of these public kitchens would have a direct and very powerful tendency to diminish the consumption of those articles of food, the



scarcity of which is most sensibly felt by society at large.

To this we may add, that the habit which the poor will acquire, in being fed from a public kitchen, of using good and palatable, and very cheap food, such as may at any time be prepared by themselves, in their own dwellings, at a much less expense than the victuals to which they are accustomed can be provided, may lead to a very important improvement in their system of cookery.

I verily believe that the inhabitants of Great Britain might be well nourished—their hunger perfectly satisfied—their health and strength preserved—and the pleasure they enjoy in eating increased, with two thirds of the food they now consume, were the art of cookery better understood.

I would beg leave to observe, that I would by no means propose to furnish the victuals from the public kitchens to all poor persons *gratis*.—The aged and infirm, and young children, cannot earn by their labour enough to defray the expenses of their subsistence; but those who are able to work should not be maintained in idleness, at the public expense, and most certainly not in times of general distress. All that they can reasonably expect is, that they and their families be enabled to subsist for as small a sum of money, or for the same quantity of labour, in times of scarcity, as their subsistence usually costs them in times of plenty. To do more for them at any time would be unwise, and in a time of general alarm would be productive of the

most fatal evils. It would have a tendency to make them careless, idle, and profligate; and instead of being grateful for the assistance received, they would soon learn to consider it as their right; and, if it were discontinued, would demand it with clamorous importunity. But if the assistance afforded to the poor be so applied, as to be felt by them as an honourable reward for their good conduct, and as an encouragement to persevere in their industrious habits, in that case, their morals will rather be improved, than injured, by the benefits received.

In all cases where it is possible, I think that a school of industry for children, should be connected with a public kitchen; and it is certainly necessary that measures should be taken, for giving *constant employment* to the poor of all descriptions, who are able to work. The full amount of their earnings should always be given to them. This is proper, not only to encourage their industry, but also to keep alive in them a spirit of independence, without which they soon become disheartened, and extremely helpless and miserable. Where the poor are paid for their labour, it is evidently just and proper that they should defray, as far at least as it is in their power, the expenses of their maintenance. It sometimes happens, tho very rarely, that profitable employment cannot be found for the poor: they should nevertheless be put to work; and even be kept to labour constantly and diligently, under the direction of those, who in such circumstances must provide for their subsistence. Were no pro-

fitable employment to be found for them ; and were there no other way of preventing their being *idle*, some public work might be undertaken for the sole purpose of employing them.

But in the neighbourhood of Windsor, the poor can hardly be in want of useful employment. His MAJESTY has taken care to prevent that evil. It is much to be wished that his opulent subjects in Great Britain and Ireland, might be induced to follow his illustrious example !

As industry and economy are the preventives and the only cure for indigence ; and as *want* is one of the strongest inducements to labour, it is evident that much caution is necessary in supplying the wants of the poor ; lest we destroy the effects of those incitements which PROVIDENCE, in infinite wisdom, has contrived, to rouse mankind from a state of indolence and torpid indifference, and to stimulate them to that constant exertion of their bodily strength and mental faculties, which we know to be necessary to the health of the body and of the mind, and essential to happiness and virtue. It seldom requires much ingenuity to make the assistance, that is given to the poor, operate as an incitement to industry ; for rewards are as powerful motives as punishments, and the truly benevolent will always prefer them. But it should never be forgotten, that all that which is given to the poor, or done for them, that does not encourage their industry, never can fail to have a contrary tendency ; and consequently must do real harm to them, and

to society. I must not, however, forget, that I am writing to a person well acquainted with human nature, and who has meditated too long on this subject, to stand in need of such observations as these. Wishing you all possible success in your laudable undertakings, I am, with much respect,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

RUMFORD.

*The Rev. H. Majendie, D. D.*

## No. VI.

## TWELVE TRUE OLD GOLDEN RULES\*

*For those who like to fare better than they now do,  
and at the same time to thrive and grow rich.*

**1.** **T**HE ready penny always fetches the best bargain. He who buys upon trust, must not complain if he is cheated. The shopkeeper suspects his customer *who buys on trust*, and thinks that he means to cheat, and never to pay; and therefore he takes good care to be beforehand, and charges high accordingly.

**2.** The best pennyworth is to be had where most sit together, in the open market; and bargains are often cheaper in the latter end of the day. When honest men have done their work, it is better for them to go to market, than to the alehouse.

**3.** When times are hard, why should we make them harder still? Is it not enough to be taxed once by government, without being taxed twice by folly, thrice by drunkenness, four times by laziness, and so on?—A good man, even in hard times, will do twice as well, as a bad man will in the best of times. Let us all then rise up *against ourselves*, who thus *tax and injure ourselves*: and we shall

\* This is compiled partly from an anonymous paper lately inserted in the public papers, and intitled Friendly Advice to the Poor.



soon find that the times will mend. *Let us do good to ourselves at home*, and we shall become happy in our own habitations; and learn that it is a true saying, that "God helps those who help themselves."

4. TIME IS OUR ESTATE; it is our most valuable property. If we lose it, or waste it, we can never—*never* purchase it back again. We ought, therefore, not to have an idle hour, or throw away an idle penny. While we employ our time and our property (however small that property may be) to the best advantage, we shall find that *a fortune may be made in any situation of life*; and that the poor man, who once wanted assistance himself, may become able to assist and relieve others.

5. INDUSTRY will make a man a purse, and FRUGALITY will find him strings for it. Neither the purse nor the strings will cost him any thing. He who has it, should only draw the strings as frugality directs; and he will be sure always to find a useful penny at the bottom of it. *The servants of industry* are known by their livery; it is always *whole and wholesome*. Idleness travels very leisurely, and poverty soon overtakes her. Look at the *ragged slaves of idleness*, and judge which is the best master to serve;—Industry, or Idleness.

6. MARRIAGE IS HONOURABLE: and the married state, when entered into with prudence, and continued in with discretion, is of all conditions of life the *most happy*; but to bring a wife home, before we have made provision by our industry and prudence, for her and our children, or to choose

a wife, who has not, by attention and economy on her part, proved herself fit to manage a family, is *extremely imprudent and improvident*. Let, therefore, the young prepare themselves for the married state, by treasuring up *all the surplus of their youthful earnings*, and they will marry with confidence, and live together in comfort.

7. Of all *idolatry*, that ever debased any savage and ignorant nation, the worship of the *gin bottle* is the most disgraceful. The worshipper of the gin bottle becomes unfit for any thing; he soon rots his liver, and ruins himself and his family.

8. He who does not make his family comfortable, will himself never be happy at home; and he who is not happy at home, will never be happy any where.—Charity begins at home: the husband and wife, who can hardly keep themselves and their children, should not keep a dog to rob the children of part of their food.

9. She who roasts or broils her meat, wastes half of it in the *fire*. She who boils it, loses half of it in the *water*. But when the good wife stews her meat gently, thickening the liquor with a little meal, ground rice, or pease and vegetables, and making it savoury with fried onions, herbs, and seasoning, her husband and she fare much better, their children thrive and grow hearty and stout, and their money goes twice as far.

10. When you stew or boil your meat, if you leave the vessel uncovered, a great deal of the best part goes off and is wasted in steam; and when you make the fire in a wide chimney, with a large

open throat, there is at least twice as much of the heat goes up the chimney, as ever comes into the room to warm the family.

11. Sinning is a very expensive occupation.— Ask those who have practised it ; they can tell you what it has cost them. The man who attempts to make you laugh at THE FEAR OF GOD is your worst enemy. In so doing, he endeavours to teach you to be also your own *bitter and irreconcilable enemy for ever*, both in this world, and in the next.

12. Sin is the greatest of all evils ; the salvation of the soul our best good ; and THE GRACE OF GOD our richest treasure. Let the poor man find his way to the cheapest market on Saturday, to a place of divine worship on Sunday, and, like an honest man, go to his labour on Monday. Following these plain directions, he may be *twice happy ;* **HAPPY HERE, AND HAPPY HEREAFTER TO ALL ETERNITY.**

## No. VII.

## EXTRACT FROM DR. FERRIAR'S DIRECTIONS AS TO THE TREATMENT OF THE DYING.

*The parting hour of the cottager is so frequently committed to the sole care and conduct of his uninstructed neighbours and friends, that, with Dr. Ferriar's permission, I have inserted an extract from his directions, as to the TREATMENT OF THE DYING; hoping that the lessons of sound sense and medical knowledge, which it contains, may find their way into the cottage, and assist the child, the wife, and the neighbour, in their last offices to their dying friend.—The dispersion of the mere animal terrors of death, and the consideration that the close of an useful and religious life is the welcome repose of a wearied soul, resting in the joyful hope of awaking to glory and happiness, may tend to relieve the anxiety of weak spirits, and to remove those doubts which will sometimes molest even firmer minds. While we consider the pleasure with which we close an active and well spent day in sleep, and proceed from it to contemplate the serene composure, with which a good christian may receive his dismissal from mortal care, the mind is both strengthened and improved. But these consolations are peculiar to the virtuous. They carry no relief to the selfish voluptuary, or to the frivolous idler. The real and insupportable pangs of a guilty conscience, at the*

*hour of death, must effectually prevent the slaves of sin, sensuality, and self-indulgence, from deceiving themselves, even with a momentary hope, that their last hours shall be calm and undisturbed, and that they shall sink into peaceful and desired repose;—when the soul must be harassed by a thousand anxious thoughts,—must be aggravated by the memory of the past, by the consideration of the present, and by the dread of the future; and see nothing but horror and fearful indignation before it.*

## OF THE TREATMENT OF THE DYING.

WHEN the approach of death is ascertained, either from the symptoms of the disease, or by the patient's own feelings, the friendly offices of the physician are not less grateful to the sick, than satisfactory to the surrounding relations. He will not, like ignorant practitioners, torment his patient with unavailing attempts to stimulate the dissolving system, from the idle vanity of prolonging the flutter of the pulse for a few more vibrations. If he cannot alleviate his situation, he will protect him against every suffering, which has not been attached to it by nature.

While the senses remain perfect, the patient ought to direct his own conduct, both in his devotional exercises, and in the last interchange of affection with his friends. The powers of the mind, after being forcibly exerted on those objects, commonly sink into complete debility, and respiration



becoming weaker every moment, the patient is rendered apparently insensible to every thing around him. But the circumstances of the disease occasion much variety in this progress. In fevers, when the brain suffers by suppuration, the interval between oppression and death is hardly discernible. In the inflammation of the lungs, the patient is generally collected previous to death. Indeed, in most cases in which the patient is destroyed by the rapidity of the circulation, there is a sort of lucid interval, immediately before dissolution ; because the action of the vessels is at length retarded, by the debility of the dying state. This may be perceived by the looks and gestures, even when the patient is incapable of speaking.

In those who die of chronic diseases, the gradation is more slow and distinct. Consumptive patients are sometimes in a dying state, during several days ; they appear at such times to suffer little ; but they languish for complete dissolution ; and I have known them express great uneasiness, when they have been recalled from the commencement of insensibility, by the cries of their friends, or the efforts of the attendants to produce pain.

In observing persons in this situation, I have always been impressed with an idea, that the approach of actual death, produces a sensation similar to that of falling asleep. The disturbance of respiration is the only apparent source of uneasiness to the dying, and sensibility seems to be impaired, in exact proportion to the decrease of that function. Besides, both the impressions of present objects,

and those recalled by memory, are influenced by the extreme debility of the patient, whose wish is for absolute rest.

In some delicate and irritable persons, a kind of struggle is sometimes excited when respiration becomes very difficult. I have known this effort proceed so far, that the patient, a very few minutes before death, has started out of bed, and stood erect for a moment. But this appeared to be the effect of apprehension. Those who resign themselves quietly to their feelings, seem to fare best.

The action of the arterial system is gradually destroyed, and not always in the same direction. This difference depends on the nature of the destroying cause: when this is general debility, however produced, the pulse ceases first in the extremities, which become entirely cold: and the larger vessels die successively, till the action of the heart is itself extinguished. In the nurses' phrase, the patient *dies upward*. But when the cause of death is a more partial affection, in apoplexy for example, the pulse continues in the wrists and feet, and those parts even feel to the hand uncommonly warm, just before death.

One of the surest indications of the nearness of death, is the alternate tossing of the arms, from the breast backwards. This, perhaps, is an effort to assist the muscles, which dilate the chest.

The length of the interval between insensibility and the absolute cessation of existence, which occurs in so many cases, has given rise to a multitude of superstitious notions, and mischievous practices

among the vulgar. The effects of these impressions still remain. It is a prevalent opinion among nurses and servants, that a patient, whose death is lingering, cannot quit life while he remains on a common bed ; and that it is necessary to drag the bed away, and to place him on the mattrass. This piece of cruelty is often practiced, when the attendants are left to themselves.

Another improper practice, is the precipitation with which the attendants lay out the body, immediately after death appears to have taken place. I have known them strip the body, in very cold, stormy weather, and wrap it in cold linen, throwing a single sheet over it, and opening the doors and windows of the apartment, in little more than half an hour after a patient had died suddenly.

It is too certain, that the helpless patient often feels these cruelties, after he has become unable to express his sensations distinctly. The testimony of persons who have recovered from apparent death, leaves no doubt on this head. Perhaps a more deplorable condition can scarcely be conceived, than that of the expiring master of a family, transferred from the soothing care of his friends, to the officious folly, or rugged indifference, of servants. This is a state of suffering to which we are all exposed ; and, if it were unavoidable, I should be far from desiring to unveil so afflicting a prospect ; but the means of prevention are so easy, that I cannot forbear to solicit the public attention to them.

When the tossing of the arms, which I have

described, the rattling noise in respiration, and difficulty of swallowing have come on, all unnecessary noise and bustle about the dying person should be prohibited. The bed-curtains should be drawn nearly close, and unless the patient should place himself in a posture evidently uneasy, he should be left undisturbed. Exclamations of grief, and the crowding of the family round the bed, only serve to harass him.

The common practice of plying him with liquors of different kinds, and of forcing them into his mouth when he cannot swallow, should be totally abstained from.

When he no longer breathes, one person only should remain in the room, who should take care that no alteration be made in the state of the bed. Every thing should be conducted, as if he were in a transitory sleep. If the weather be hot, the windows of the room may be opened, and the bed-curtains undrawn, in the course of two or three hours. In winter it will be sufficient to withdraw the curtains within that time.

There can be no just reason for the haste, with which it is usual to lay out the body. Several hours may be properly suffered to elapse, before this is done; for the joints do not commonly become rigid for a considerable time. At the end of that period, the body will be completely cold, and all remains of sensibility will have been extinguished.

It is far from my intention to excite by these remarks, apprehensions respecting premature interment, in those who may be led to peruse this paper,

without much knowledge of medical subjects. The period to which I wish to direct attention, precedes the funeral by several days, according to the custom of this country; and it must require uncommon folly, to incur any hazard of such an event.

Happily the usage of keeping the body unburied during several days, is so firmly established in this country, that it is unnecessary to speculate on the possibility of such abuses. The slightest appearance of putrefaction affords sufficient security against any revisiting of life; and marks of this nature are almost always visible, before the date of interment observed here.



## No. VIII.

*An Account of a Cottage and Garden near Tadcaster.\**

By THOMAS BERNARD, Esq.

TWO miles from Tadcaster, on the left-hand side of the road to York, stands a beautiful little cottage, with a garden, that has long attracted the eye of the traveller. General Account of the Cottage, &c. The slip of land is exactly a rood, inclosed by a cut quick hedge; and containing the cottage, fifteen apple-trees, one green gage, and three winesour plum-trees, two apricot-trees, several gooseberry and currant bushes, abundance of common vegetables, and three hives of bees; being all the apparent wealth of the possessor. The singular neatness and good order that marked every part of this little domain, and some circumstances respecting the owner, which had been mentioned to me by Dr. Burgh of York, made me anxious to obtain the history of the cottager and his family. In the end of May, 1797, I called there in my way from York; but found the house and the gate of the garden locked. In the road to Tadcaster, however, I met his wife, laden with a basket of provisions from the market; and engaged her to find her husband, who was at work about a mile off, and to send him to me at the inn at Tadcaster. When he arrived he very willingly gave me his history, as follows—

\* This account was originally published in July 1797; but, being nearly out of print, is inserted in the Appendix by desire of the Society.

His name is Britton Abbot : his age sixty-seven, and his wife's nearly the same. At His history till the inclosure. nine years old he had gone to work with a farmer ; and being a steady careful lad, and a good labourer, particularly in what is called task-work, he had managed so well, that before he was 22 years of age, he had accumulated near £. 40. He then married and took a little farm at £. 30 a year ; but before the end of the second year he found it prudent, or rather necessary, to quit it ; having already exhausted, in his attempt to thrive upon it, almost all the little property that he had heaped together. He then fixed in a cottage at Poppleton ; where, with two acres of land, and his common right, he kept two cows. Here he had resided very comfortably, as a labourer, for nine years, and had six children living, and his wife preparing to lie in of a seventh, when an inclosure of Poppleton took place ; and the arrangements made in consequence of it, obliged him to seek for a new habitation, and other means of subsistence for his family.

He applied to Squire Fairfax, and told him that, if he would let him have a little bit of ground by the road-side, " he would shew him the *fashions* on it." He builds his cottage and plants his garden.

After inquiry into his character, he obtained of Mr. Fairfax the ground he now occupies ; and with a little assistance from the neighbours, in the carriage of his materials, he built his present house ; and planted the garden, and the hedge round it, which is a single row of quick,

thirty-five years old, and without a flaw or defect. He says he cut it down six times successively when it was young. Mr. Fairfax was so much pleased with the progress of his work, and the extreme neatness of his place, that he told him he should be rent free. His answer deserves to be remembered: "Now, Sir, you have a pleasure in seeing my cottage and garden neat: and why should not other squires have the same pleasure, in seeing the cottages and gardens as nice about them? The poor would then be happy; and would love them, and the place where they lived: but now every little nook of land is to be let to the great farmers; and nothing left for the poor, but to go to the parish."

He has had seven children; six of whom attained to man's estate; and five are now living, and thriving in the world. His son has a little farm near Hemsley Moor: one of his daughters is the wife of a joiner at York; another, of the occupier of a little farm at Kelfield; a third of a labouring man, who has a little land of his own, near Duffield; the fourth is the wife of a labourer, who has built a cottage for himself at Tadcaster, and wants nothing (as the father observed) but a bit of ground for a garden. Britton Abbot says he now earns 12s. and sometimes 15s. and 18s. a week, by hoeing turnips by the piece; setting quick, and other task-work: "but to be sure, (he added) *I have a grand character in all this country.*" He gets from his garden, annually, about 40 bushels of potatoes, be-

Account of  
his family,  
earnings,  
&c.

sides other vegetables ; and his fruit, in a good year, is worth from £.3 to £.4 a year. His wife occasionally goes out to work ; she also spins at home, and takes care of his house and his garden. He says, they have lived very happy together for forty-five years.—To the account that I have given, it may be needless to add, that neither he, nor any part of his family, has ever had occasion to apply for parochial relief.

Tho my visit was unexpected, and he at the latter end of his Saturday's work, his appearance, health, clothes were neat and sufficiently clean : &c. &c. &c. his countenance was healthy and open ; he was a little lame in one leg, the consequence of exposure to wet and weather. He said he had always worked hard and well ; but he would not deny but that he had loved a mug of good ale when he could get it. When I told him my object in inquiring after him, that it was in order that other poor persons might have cottages and gardens as neat as his, and that he must tell me *all his secret*—how it was to be done ; he seemed extremely pleased, and very much affected ; he said, “ nothing would make poor folks more happy, than finding “ *that great folks thought of them :*” that he wished every poor man had as comfortable a home as his own ; not but that he believed there might be *a few thriftless fellows*, who would not do good in it.

I asked him whether he had not a cow. He said he had had one, and she had died ;  
 Proposal about a cow. and having no other place but the lane to keep his cow, he had not attempted

to get another.—“ Could you get land, if you had  
 “ a cow ?”—He thought he could.—“ Supposing  
 “ then (I added) a cow could be bought for £. 12 :  
 “ and you could rent it on the terms of paying down  
 “ £. 3 10s. immediately ; and then £. 3 10s. at the  
 “ end of each year during three years ; and that the  
 “ cow was to be yours at the end of the three years,  
 “ if she lived, and you paid your rent regularly :—  
 “ Do you think such a bargain would answer for  
 “ you ?”—Yes, he said, he was sure it would very  
 greatly ; and there were few cottagers to whom it  
 would not be a very great advantage ; especially  
 where they had a family of children. I told him  
 to inquire whether he could get a little land ; and I  
 would have some more talk with him about it, when  
 I came down in August.

## OBSERVATIONS.

The history of Britton Abbot appears to me to  
 merit attention. At the time of the in-  
 closure of Poppleton, when he had six General view  
 of his history.  
 young children living, and his wife  
 preparing to lie in of a seventh, his whole little  
 system of economy and arrangement was at once  
 destroyed ; his house, his garden, his little field, taken  
 from him ; and all his sources of wealth dried up.  
 With less success in his application for the rood of  
 land, the spot in which his industry was to be ex-  
 erted, and (in justice to him it must be added) with  
 less energy than he possesses, he might have gone  
 with his family into a workhouse ; and, from that  
 hour, have become a burthen to the public, instead



of being one of its most useful members. Observe for a moment the effects of his well directed industry. Without any parochial aid, he has raised six of his seven children, to a state of maturity; and has placed them out respectably and comfortably in the world. Five of them are now living, in the middle period of life; and he continues at the age of sixty-seven, a good working labourer; happy in his own industry and good management, in the beauty and comfort of his cottage, and in the extreme fertility of his garden.

Britton Abbot possesses a degree of energy and spirit, that we must not expect to find in every cottager. If, however, the poor do not exert themselves, and have not so much forethought and management as might be wished, the fault is less in them, than in the system of our poor laws, and in the *manner* in which they are executed. Were they properly and universally encouraged to industry and economy, we should soon find thriving and happy cottagers in every part of the kingdom. Let only a tenth of the money, now spent in workhouses, in what is usually called "*the relief of the poor*," be applied in assisting and encouraging them to thrive and be happy in their cottages, the poor's rate will be lessened, and a national saving made both in labour and food.\* The labourer is capable

\* This experiment would be easily tried, Suppose the poor's rate of a parish so applied to be £. 600 a year; and that £. 60 a year of the rate were to be annually employed in assisting the most industrious and deserving labourers, to

of more exertion, and is maintained for less than half the expense, in his cottage than in a workhouse. In his cottage he has his family around him, he has something he can call his own, he has objects to look forward to, and is the master of his own actions.—*Domestic connections, property, liberty, the hope of advancement*, those master springs of human action, exist not in a workhouse.

It is the misfortune of this country, that the well-disposed and industrious poor do not receive sufficient aid or encouragement. They find no distinction made between them and the idle and profligate; except this—that *the idle and profligate are maintained in part at their expense*. As the law is too frequently executed, the cottager, *tho poor himself*, is regularly assessed *for the relief of the poor*; but he receives no benefit from the fund, no assistance towards the support of himself and his family, unless he is reduced to absolute want, and presents himself hopeless at the door of the workhouse.

The evil has been greatly increased by the ninth of George I. which authorizes the farming of the poor, and refuses relief to those who will not submit to reside

Defects in  
our system  
of relief.

Increased by  
the act of  
Geo. I. as to  
workhouses.

become possessors of cottages and cows: I am confident the poor's rate of that parish would be greatly diminished in a few years; probably to half its present amount. The difference between a law that *encourages* the poor to exertion, and one that attempts to *compel* them to it, is, that in the first you have the co-operation of the millions of the people who are to be the objects of the law; in the second, all the labour is thrown on *the unfortunate and unsuccessful persons*, who are to attempt to execute it.

in the workhouse.\* It is, in consequence, the interest of the farmer of the workhouse, to keep it in such a condition, that (to use Mr. Parry's words†) "the honest and industrious labourer, who has brought up a large family with credit, and who from misfortune is poor, and from age past his labour, will submit to be half starved, rather than take up his abode amid such wretchedness and profligacy." By these means workhouses become objects of terror to the honest and industrious, and at the same time the favourite resort of the dissolute and abandoned; the dirt, the waste, the disorder, the want of regulation, and the *undistinguishing treatment*‡ of the worst and best characters, being as gratifying to them, as they are irksome and disgusting to the well disposed poor.

Let us consider what must be the effect of this system on the cottager.—Tenant to the farmer who has taken his cottage over his head, he is aware that his new landlord will require as much rent as he can contrive

\* An act has been lately passed (in December, 1795,) empowering the magistrates to order the cottager, under special circumstances, temporary relief at home. It has not, however, been attended to in some districts; and in others, the execution of it is very unwillingly submitted to by parish officers.

† See the first Report of the Society.

‡ An English workhouse is the only place upon earth, where the idle have the same allowance of food, and the same accommodation, as the industrious. In the table of diet of the Rasphouse at Rotterdam, there is a great difference made between those who do full work, and those who only work *half task*. In the establishment at Munich, mere necessities are allowed for those who do not work—for those who do, comforts and luxuries.

to pay. He has a young and increasing family; and, when times are at the best, he often finds it as much as he can do to go on, from one day to another, in their support. He can hardly expect that during the severity of the winter, the high price of bread, or the visitation of sickness, his earnings will always, and at all seasons, continue equal to the necessities of his family. If the hour of adversity arrives, he knows the rule of his parish, that "*no assistance is to be given to the labourer, while he possesses any thing of his own;*" and that what, with much labour and much self-denial, he shall have saved, must all be exhausted and spent, before his claim to parochial relief can be admitted. It may be well to consider what incitement *he* has to thrift and forethought. Can we confidently answer for ourselves that, so circumstanced, we should act even as well, and look as much to futurity, as he does; or that we should not be made mere sensualists by despondency? Is it perfectly clear, that we should not spend every penny, that could be spared from the daily nourishment of our families, in self-indulgence at an ale-house?

Happy should I be, if I could make use of the history of Britton Abbot, to obtain for the labourer, encouragement to imitate <sup>Want of cottages for the</sup> the energy of his industry. Of the dif- <sup>poor.</sup> ferent modes of aiding and animating the poor, none would have more tendency to raise them above the want of parochial aid, than that of enabling them progressively to follow his example, in such a manner, that the most deserving might in their turn

become the owners of comfortable cottages and productive gardens ; a measure which seems to be peculiarly called for by the present condition of the dwellings of the poor. It is a melancholy fact that, in most parts of England,\* their habitations are not only comfortless and devoid of accommodation, but insufficient in number ; and that honest and industrious families are frequently driven into the work-house, merely for the want of cottages in their parish.

If the custom of setting apart ground for them to build upon, were to obtain generally, and in a manner to induce and enable them to take the benefit of it, it would assist in gradually correcting this national and increasing evil, and in supplying that useful class of men with proper habitations.—It would have other very important effects. It would diminish the calls for parochial relief ; it would encourage and improve the good habits of the poor ; it would attach them to their parishes, and give them an increased interest and share in the property and prosperity of

\* There are some parts of England, particularly in the northern counties, where the habitations of the poor are very comfortable ; and other parts, in which the public spirit and benevolence of individuals have done, and are doing, much to improve them in their own neighbourhood. Picturesque cottages might be so disposed around a park, as to ornament and enliven the scenery with much more effect, than those misplaced Gothic castles, and those pigmy models of Grecian temples, that perverted taste is so busy with : but it is the unfortunate principle of ornamental buildings in England, that they should be uninhabited and uninhabitable.



their country. The land required for each cottage and garden, need not be more than a rood; the value of which would bear no possible comparison to that of the industry to be employed upon it. The quarter of an acre that Britton Abbot inclosed, was not worth a shilling a year. It now contains a good house and a garden, abounding in fruit, vegetables, and almost every thing that constitutes the wealth of the cottager. In such inclosures, the benefit to the country, and to the individuals of the parish, would far surpass any petty sacrifice of land, to be required. **FIVE UNSIGHTLY, UNPROFITABLE, ACRES OF WASTE GROUND WOULD AFFORD HABITATION AND COMFORT TO TWENTY SUCH FAMILIES AS BRITTON ABBOT'S.**

In order to encourage the exertions of the labourer, I should hope that this would be conceded to me, that the rood of land, inclosed for his cottage and garden (on condition of a house being erected) be held

Exempt from rent and taxes, while the labourer is owner and occupant.

in fee simple; and that, so long as a parishioner, labouring generally within his parish, continued owner and occupier, such cottage and garden should, by parliamentary authority, be exempt from rent, taxes, rates, tithes, and all burthens whatsoever. It would be an important object to keep these little freeholds in the hands of the labourers of the parish; so that they might be transmitted from father to son, like those little estates, which we contemplate with so much pleasure in Burrodale. If therefore, the exemption from rent,

taxes,\* &c. continued no longer than while the cottage was both the property and residence of a parishioner, generally working within his parish, it would not be of half as much value to any other person, as to him for whom it was originally intended; and if in some instances they got into other hands, they would soon return again into the possession of the labouring parishioner.

As the means of promoting industry and good conduct among the poor, I should hope  
 The kind of preference and aid to be given. that a preference would be given to "industrious parishioners, members of "friendly societies;" and that the character of the man, the number of his children, and other circumstances, would induce the farmers to give him the carriage of his materials, and his other neighbours to help him† with a pecuniary subscription. The annual sum of £.10 or £.20 so collected in a parish, and impartially and publicly given as a premium to the most deserving labourer

\* The exemption from land tax would create another exemption; that of not having to attend county elections. It might be proper that no settlement should be affected, or varied, by any ownership, or occupation, of these cottages: and that the performance of the condition, by the erection of the cottage, should be certified and recorded at the quarter sessions. The rent to be paid by a stranger should not be less than a guinea a year; to be distributable in fuel among the poor of the parish at Christmas. This would serve at once as a penalty on the intruder, and as a compensation to the parishioners.

† When a young man in New England has saved a little money towards erecting his house, he applies to his townsmen for assistance: they fix the time, and all of them attend to get the building up. I have known one of those houses erected and covered in, in the course of a few days.

in that parish (either to assist him in erecting his cottage, or to enable him to purchase his cow) would produce a great effect on the good habits of the poor; and, while it rewarded merit, would stimulate others to follow the example.

It would have other important effects.—It would greatly diminish parish rates;\* for he who possesses a freehold cottage and garden, or a cow, has seldom, if ever, occasion to apply for parochial relief.

Its good effects as to other parishes, and to the public.

By attaching the cottager to his own parish, it would secure to the farmer a certain supply of labourers, and would equalize, and keep down, the price of labour, now much enhanced by the disposition to wander about, in quest of the highest wages and the easiest work; a disposition which has occasioned a considerable waste in the produce of national labour. But this would not be all. Freehold cottages and gardens, do not only attach the owners to their country, but are also the surest pledges and securities for their conduct. The cottager, who has property, is habituated to set a higher value on himself and on his character, and seems to be of a superior order of men. Besides this, the addition, which these little freeholds might make to the in-

\* Landlords and farmers, who wish their own poor's rates reduced, would do well to inquire into the amount of the poor's rates in those parishes, where labourers have gardens and cows. One annual rate of sixpence in the pound has proved fully adequate to the relief of the poor in such a parish. See the Earl of Winchilsea's letter, and some other reports, on the advantages of cottagers renting land.

industry, morals, and produce of a country,\* would be an object of consideration in this respect; that the cottager, who has a garden and a little property of his own, has always before him a *pleasurable object of industry* for his leisure time: whereas, he who has none, is driven to the ale-house by the same *unhappy necessity*, that impels idle young men to the gaming table,—the want of occupation.

In the mode which I suggested to Britton Abbot, of his renting the cow, he would acquire a gradually increasing interest in her; so as to make him anxious for her preservation, but not such as to involve him deeply, in case of her death, or to give him a right to dispose of her. In this way, the sum of £.15† would be sufficient to constitute a *perpetual fund*, in any parish, for supplying the *annual premium* of a cow for some industrious and well disposed labourer, as long as the landlord will consult his own interest, and afford the means of feeding her. Whether this object is to be attained by annexing

\* Productive gardens to cottages would, by the increased consumption of vegetables, make a considerable saving in bread corn: the same observation may be applied to cottagers' cows. Of butter, eggs, and poultry, our markets might have a regular and cheap supply from cottagers.

† Upon supposition that the price of the cow were £.12. the donor of such a fund would have to advance £.8. 10s. the first year, £.5 the second, and £.1 10s. the third; after which the rent of £.3. 10s. paid for three years, for each cow, would produce, in future, £.10 10s. a year: being (with the £.3. 10s. originally paid by the cottager) £.2 more than would purchase a cottager's cow every year after. The additional £.2. a year would, I presume, be sufficient to insure, for the year, the landlord's interest in the cows.

ground to the cottages, or by letting to the cottager an adjistment for his cow, or by supplying him with pasture, and a certain quantity of hay,\* at an annual rent : or by making it one of the conditions on which the farmer takes his farm, that he shall keep his cottager's cow at a limited price,—whatever mode is to be adopted, will depend much on the circumstances of the country.—There is hardly any part of England, however, in which the cottager's cow may not be provided for, by one or other of these means ; or by another mode, which I should prefer, when practicable, as the right which it would give the poor man would be *unalienable* ; and that is, inclosing and improving from the waste†, cow pastures of ten or twelve acres each ; the exclusive benefit whereof, the cottagers of the parish should enjoy at a small rent ; which (after providing for fences, &c.) might go as a fund for supplying the poor of the parish with fuel. Such inclosures would be extremely gratifying and beneficial to that useful class of men, the labouring poor. The stock on them should be limited ; and a preference given to labourers working within the parish, in proportion to their families, their industry, and character.

\* Mr. Burdon's cow pastures are closes of sixteen acres, for twelve cows each : he allows each cottager two loads of hay ; making the hay in small stacks of four loads each, so that one stack serves two cottagers. He finds the system answer, both as to the improvement of ground, and the amount of rent. I can only say that, when I was at Castle Eden, I thought his cottagers' hay stacks and cows the most pleasing ornaments of a very beautiful place.

† This plan has been adopted in the Iver inclosure bill now before Parliament. 31st May, 1800.



I have only to add, that my friend's history contains in it a strong proof, that, tho the cottager is benefited by the supply of a garden and of land for his cow, while he continues a *labourer*; yet, if more land is added, just enough to constitute him a *little farmer*, with a very small capital, and to make him forego his profit and advantage as a labourer, his means of life, instead of being improved by the acquisition of land, are prejudiced. No persons earn a harder or more precarious living, or do less good with their land, than very small farmers. The condition of a labourer, who has a well-stocked garden, a couple of cows, a pig, and just ground enough to keep them, is affluence, compared with the lot of him, who attempts to live as a farmer, on a small quantity of ground, not sufficient to maintain him as a farmer, though abundantly adequate to its object, if divided among several labourers.

16th July, 1797.

## No. IX.

*Upon the subject of the present scarcity, we have great pleasure in adding an extract from a Sermon lately preached by the BISHOP of LONDON.*

BESIDES the reasons for the practice of religious abstinence, which have here been stated, every man must, at this moment, feel himself under peculiar obligations, to observe a more than ordinary degree of abstemiousness, both in the quantity and quality of his diet. It has pleased the Almighty, to afflict this land with an unusual scarcity of one of the most essential necessities of life. Whether this scarcity may not have been exaggerated and increased, by the arts of unfeeling and avaricious men, I will not take upon me to say : but whether it be real or artificial, or (what is perhaps nearer the truth) a compound of both, the effect is the same ; *a real evil* results from it. It has rendered the price of bread excessive, and placed it almost beyond the reach of the poor. It is, therefore, a duty we owe to them, and to the public at large, to exert our best endeavours, to lower this exorbitant price, as much as possible.

There is no danger, I conceive, of exciting, by these exertions, any needless alarm. The alarm has long since gone forth ; and it is in vain to think of stifling it, by saying, there is no scarcity. This is, at the best, mere matter of opinion ; and different men will think differently concerning it. But

there is one point, on which all men must think alike—that bread *is enormously dear*, and hardly to be procured by the lower orders of the people.—It is of no moment to them, whether the scarcity be real or artificial; they feel an actual calamity pressing upon them, and they care little about the reasonings of speculative men. This being the case, it would be as preposterous for us to sit still with our arms folded, and suffer the mischief to advance upon us, without any effort to repress it, as it would be, to make no preparations of defence against an enemy landed on our coasts, for fear it should spread a false alarm over the country. The enemy, we have at present to encounter, is actually in the midst of us, is at every man's door; but assails, with peculiar violence, the cottage of the poor. We are, therefore, loudly and imperiously called upon to resist him with vigour; and it behoves the higher classes, more especially, to give every assistance in their power to the lower orders; which in truth they seem perfectly well disposed to do.

One mode of relief suggested has been that, of the highest and middle ranks of men limiting, to a very moderate proportion, the quantity of bread used in their respective families. This is, certainly, in every point of view, a very wise and benevolent expedient. The less bread is consumed by the rich, the more, of course, there will be left for the poor; and the less demand there is for this particular article, the less temptation will there be to hoard it up, and the greater probability there is that the price will fall. Besides this, when the lower orders

see that their superiors voluntarily deny themselves some of the comforts of life for their sakes, they will more readily and patiently submit to the privations they must necessarily endure.

It is to be hoped, therefore, that this salutary regulation, this wise and humane act of abstemiousness, will universally prevail, among those whom Providence has blessed with affluence, or with competence.

But let us not stop here ; let us go a little further still. Let us carry our hostilities into the head quarters of the enemy ; let us extend our retrenchments to *all* the superfluities, and luxuries, and needless delicacies, of the table ; not for the purposes of parsimony or avarice, but for the directly opposite purposes of generosity and beneficence ; that we may apply the savings of these reforms, to the relief of our necessitous brethren ; and render *our* frugality the source of *their* plenty. This would be a species of abstinence, highly pleasing in the sight both of GOD and man ; and would, at once, contribute most essentially to health, to virtue, to content of mind, and to the comfort of all around us.

## No. X.

*Extract from the Report of the Establishment at  
Hamburgh, in 1799.*

THE following paper is extracted from a late publication at Hamburgh. It is submitted to consideration, how far the detail of Hamburgh in 1789, is descriptive of the present situation of London; and whether it might not be desirable, that the Hamburgh account of 1799, should be applicable to an improved state of our own metropolis.

*Comparative state of Hamburgh in the years*

1789	and	1799
1. The streets crowded with beggars: many of them strangers; all in great distress; the modest and deserving perishing unheard and unknown, for want of a share in that relief, which the street-beggar anticipated by fraud and importunity. 446 persons in the house of correction, besides prisoners.		1. Scarcely a beggar to be seen: every necessitous inhabitant receiving, under kind and regular care and inspection, sure and beneficial relief. In ten years 3,081 poor strangers relieved, and returned to their places of habitation.—Not more, in the whole, than 147 persons in the house of correction.
2. It appeared upon enquiry, that, besides street beggars, there were many poor persons without bedding or clothes, perishing wretchedly and unknown; objects who were		2. It is known to all the poor inhabitants, that if they apply to the inspector of their district, they will receive immediate temporary relief; and that the necessary enquiries



1789

ashamed to make their appearance in the day time, on account of the want of decent apparel.

3. There were not less than 600 persons, without bed or bedding; and 2,000 without linen: all of them, dirty, ragged, and devoid of all domestic comfort.

4. Not less than 2,100 poor neglected children, covered with rags and vermin: many of them, from infancy, taught by their parents to beg and steal, and growing up in vice and infamy.

5. The distresses, and the conduct of the poor were almost unknown, except to a few clerical and medical men. When the directors and inspectors made their first enquiries, they visited some narrow courts inhabited entirely by beggars, lost to society, and scarcely preserving the human form; courts, which benevolence approached with a degree of alarm and horror.

6. With a very few exceptions, the poor man who was prevented by sickness from working at his trade, or af-

1799

will forthwith be made as to their situation, and the means of assuring to them regular support.

3. No poor person without proper cloathing; none, who may not have linen and a bed. If they are not able to earn them by labour, they receive them as a gift.

4. In the preceding 10 years, 2,699 children educated in the schools of industry; and 4,833 received, since 1793, into the other schools. Of these, 538 children have been apprenticed.

5. There are now 180 inspectors, 5 physicians, and 5 surgeons, who regularly visit every part of Hamburg. Each house is numbered, and there are 2,100 poor persons employed to bring the inspectors immediate information of any distress or disorder in the city. Thus are misery and vice diminished among the poor; and virtue and patriotism increased among the rich.

6. Those who are too poor to pay for medical assistance, may have it of the establishment, together with pecuniary

1789

fllicted by long and severe illness in his family, was thereby irretrievably ruined. His alternative was to apply to an ignorant empirick, to the destruction of his health; or, if he called in regular medical assistance, he was in consequence obliged to dispose of his furniture and implements of labour, to the ruin of his family.

7. A poor family, consisting of more than 2 children, found it impossible to procure subsistence merely by the labour of the father: and the mother being without occupation, the children, however well disposed their parents might be, were inevitably reduced to hopeless beggary.

8. The artisan who, for want of employment or of a sale for his work, was behind hand, found himself compelled to pawn his tools; and by extreme indigence was frequently reduced to a wretched state of inactivity; in consequence of which, tho possessed of strength and skill to labour, he became a hopeless and helpless beggar.

1799

relief, until they can resume their work. During a period of ten years, 36,803 sick persons have been thus relieved; of whom 30,978 have been recovered, and restored to the community. The mortality among the sick, in the early part of the preceding 10 years, was about 8 in the hundred: it now bears only half that proportion.

7. A large family became in 1792 an advantage to the honest and industrious. The parents receive an allowance for any child too young to attend the schools; where the other children are instructed, clothed, and fed; and have some surplus of their earnings, to carry home to their parents.

8. Since 1795 a committee has met regularly every Saturday, to discharge debts, redeem pawns, purchase materials and tools, or advance loans for distressed artisans, *who can shew that ther distress is not occasioned by vice or idleness.* In four years, 946 families have been so relieved; and nearly one-third of the money so employed has been already repaid.

1789

9. No establishment for the preservation of natural children, and for the restoration of their-unfortunate and penitent mothers to the paths of virtue and industry.

10. There were 7,391 paupers, (4,087 women, 1,079 men, and 2,225 children) besides persons in hospitals.—Mendicity, spreading like infection, and paralysing the industry and energy of the poor, was become an epidemic disease among the lower classes of life.

1799

9. A foundling hospital was opened in 1795; in which 138 children have been already preserved, and 153 mothers maintained till they could be placed in service.

10. There are at present 3,090 paupers, fed and clothed, and obliged to do such work as they are capable of. Of these, 1,592 are aged persons, from 60 to 100 years of age; 1,097 maimed or diseased persons of middle age; and 401 children, the greater part of whom are very young.

## GENERAL NUMERICAL STATEMENT.

	In 1789	In 1799
Poor, above childhood	5166	2689
Poor children	2225	401
Receiving relief	7391	3090
In the house of correction	446	147
In the sick hospital	920	894
In the orphan hospital about	1000	600
Total	9757	4731
Reduction in the number of paupers		5026

If from 5026 be subtracted the persons receiving relief, the average number of which is 237, and children merely receiving education, which may be set at 1054, still there will remain a saving to the community of **THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIVE PERSONS.**

22d March, 1800.

## No. XI.

*Copy of the articles of agreement, of the 19th of March, 1800, between several Master Chimney Sweepers within the liberties of Westminster and the Holborn Division of the county of Middlesex, for forming a Friendly Society for the protection and instruction of their apprentices.*

1st. **IT** is hereby agreed that the said Master Chimney Sweepers do form themselves into a Friendly Society, for the protection and instruction of climbing boys during their apprenticeship ; and to raise a fund, with the assistance of the honorary members of the said Society, to give premiums with them to other trades, when their terms as Chimney Sweepers shall expire ; in order to enable them to become useful to themselves and the community, and also to promote the general interest and credit of the trade.

2d. That all Chimney Sweepers above 21 years of age, being housekeepers within the liberties of Westminster and county of Middlesex, and having one or more apprentices, be eligible as members of this Society, and after election capable of being admitted, when they shall have signed these articles ; and that the said Society do consist of such members, so elected and admitted, and of such honorary members as are hereinafter mentioned.

3d. That this Society do annually elect six members, masters in the trade, and six of the honorary

members hereinafter mentioned, to be a committee, with the president, four vice-presidents, and treasurer, to conduct the affairs thereof: and that they meet at such hour and place as they shall from time to time appoint; and that any three of them constitute a board for the dispatch of business.

4th. That a general meeting of this Society be held at 2 o'clock precisely, on the first Wednesday in the months of January, April, July, and October, in every year, to consider and approve the measures of the committee, and for other purposes.

5th. That this Society do elect, by ballot, some member thereof to be treasurer, to receive the subscriptions, &c. of the members; which treasurer do give a security to such amount as the committee shall direct; and do pay all subscriptions and other monies received, into the banking house of the Society, to be entered with the names of the several subscribers, so as it may all pass through that account.

6th. That the committee have full permission, at all reasonable times of the day, to inspect the bedding, clothing, &c. of all apprentices belonging to the members of this Society, to see whether they be according to the tenor of the indenture of such apprentices, and conformable to the regulations contained in the Act of Parliament, and also that they do make report thereof to the Society at their general meetings.

7th. That it be the duty of every member of the committee, at all times to hear the complaints of



any apprentice in the trade, within the liberties of Westminster and county of Middlesex, and to summon before a magistrate any master or mistress, who may violate the Act of Parliament made for the relief of climbing boys.

8th. That the Society do place out each boy, who shall complete the whole term of his apprenticeship as a Chimney Sweeper, to some other trade, not a Chimney Sweeper, from the period when he shall be 16 years of age until he attain the age of 21; provided he does not enter into an engagement to continue with his master, or some other master of the trade, being a member of this Society, during that time; and that the Society do give a premium, not exceeding £.10, for that purpose.

9th. That this Society give a gratuity, not exceeding £.10, to every person whose apprenticeship, as a Chimney Sweeper, shall expire after the 1st day of July, 1800, in case he shall from that time continue in the sea service, or as an articulated servant to a member or members of this Society, from the age of 16 to the age of 21; and that such gratuity be paid him within three months after his attaining the age of 21.

10th. That this Society do take security from any person, to whom they may give a premium with an apprentice, that such apprentice shall not follow the trade or business of a Chimney Sweeper, before he be 21 years of age.

11th. That this Society will countenance no person whatsoever who shall have been on his own hands, or out of employ, any six months, from 16

to 21 years of age, except from such cause as the committee shall think reasonable.

12th. That this Society give premiums to none but apprentices of the members of this Society; but that it do, in other cases, lend its friendly aid to all Chimney Sweepers' apprentices.

13th. That at any time when the money in the hands of the treasurer shall amount to £.20, he shall place the same, in the name of the Society, in the banking house of Messrs. Dorset, Johnson, and Co. bankers, in New Bond Street, or at such other banking house as the Society, or the committee, may appoint.

14th. That all orders for the payment of money on account of the Society, be signed by the chairman and two of the committee, at a general quarterly meeting.

15th. That every member in the trade, on admission into this Society, pay the sum of 10s. 6d. and from the day of such admission pay the sum of 1s. per month, for every apprentice he or she may keep: such payment to be made once in every three months; and in case he or she shall leave any arrears unpaid, for more than three months after the time such respective sum or sums shall become due, (he or she having had one calendar month's notice thereof) that then he or she shall be expelled the Society, and the money paid by them forfeited for the benefit of the general fund.

16th. That all persons, not in the trade, contributing one guinea, or more, annually, or paying ten guineas at once to the funds of the Society, be

honorary members, and have a right to vote at all meetings thereof.

17th. That this Society do annually choose a president, four vice-presidents, a treasurer, and twelve other members of the committee, for conducting the affairs of the Society, at their general meeting, at 2 o'clock precisely, on the first Wednesday of the month of April, in every year ; and (her Royal Highness the Dutchess of Gloucester having been elected and declared the patroness of the Society, and Mrs. Montague the vice-patroness, and the Lord Bishop of Durham the president of the Society for the ensuing year) that the Society do meet on the first Wednesday in the month of April next, to elect four vice-presidents, a treasurer, and six honorary members, and six members in the trade, to be, with the president, a committee for the ensuing year.

18th. That nothing be admitted as a law of this Society, unless it be proposed at one meeting of the committee, approved of by the next, and confirmed at a general quarterly meeting of the Society.

19th, and lastly. That the amount of all fines awarded by a magistrate to any member of this Society, for any transgression against the Act of Parliament made for the relief of climbing boys, be paid into the hands of the treasurer for the general purposes of the Society ; and that the expenses of any complaint or proceedings before a magistrate, by order of the committee, be paid out of the funds of the Society. In witness whereof the said parties

have hereunder signed their respective names, the day and year first above written.

*N. B. These articles have been signed by eighteen of the principal masters in the trade, and fifty-six chimney sweepers' boys have been thereby placed under the care and protection of the Society. The articles are left for signatures at No. 7, Welbeck-street; and little doubt can be entertained, but that they will be speedily signed by every respectable master chimney sweeper, whose conduct will bear inspection and inquiry. The Committee sits every first Wednesday in the month, at three o'clock.*

29th May, 1800.

## No. XII.

*Extract from Observations on the Duty and Influence of the middle Classes of Society, on the Condition of the Poor. By the Reverend JOHN HEWLETT.*

IT is principally to the middle classes of society that the poor look up for instruction, employment, protection, and relief. Between the highest orders of the community and the lowest, unfortunately, there is seldom any intercourse. It is with those in middle life that the poor are connected, in the numerous and useful relations of servants, labourers, artisans, and manufacturers. And let the merchant, the husbandman, and the trader reflect, that it is chiefly from the labour of the poor, that they grow rich, and must in a great measure derive their future comfort and support. This should teach them at all times, to respect the usefulness of their humble station, and to be particularly kind to them, under their little hardships, and misfortunes; considering that what are trifling losses and calamities to some, may be attended with almost irretrievable ruin to others.

Sickness, more especially, should claim a large portion of that "charity, which is the bond of perfectness;" as should also those inclement seasons, which preclude many kinds of labour, and those long and dreary intervals, when, from a state of war, the caprice of fashion, or other causes, the artisan and manufacturer may solicit in vain for



employment. On all occasions, indeed, those who enjoy the privileges of masters should learn to be "kind, knowing that they also have a master in "heaven." Even when no unusual circumstances call for particular attention, the other classes of society should, in their general behaviour to the poor, "be pitiful and courteous;" avoiding all unnecessary harshness and asperity, they should be models of conduct to them in the humble circle, where they also act as masters of their own little households, and fathers of helpless families; models that would be more generally imitated, if they were more generally known. But, at present, such is the pressure of the times with respect to the poor, that all the authority which can be derived from religion, all the prudent restraints of law, all the wisdom of experience, and all the activity and energy of christian and brotherly love, are necessary to relieve their wants, to correct their morals, to improve their conduct, and better their condition.

It is a misfortune, that the relation between the master and the servant, and between the employer and the employed, is often too distant and remote. There is frequently but little personal connection, little intercourse of kindness between them. Every thing that tends to raise or sink the poor man, every thing that may be kindly meant to increase his comforts, or that may have the effect of aggravating his distress, reaches him through the medium of under agents; sometimes with the disadvantage of the good being diminished, and the evil increased. This is productive of much depravity among our poor

brethren, while it increases their difficulties. It makes them, as it were, *an insulated body* in society; but more particularly in the metropolis, where circumstances increase their difficulties, and, in some degree, cut them off from almost all communication with their betters. If that communication were opened, they would learn to speak and act from some sense of shame and fear, like other men. Admitted to a knowledge of those who rank above them, they would value the advantages it afforded, and be studious to improve them. They would learn *to respect themselves*. Their manners and their principles would insensibly grow better; they would become wiser and more provident in *managing* their little store, and more frugal and temperate in the *use* of it. Excited and encouraged by proper examples, they would more frequently attend the places of public worship; and not so shamefully profane the sabbath, *as many thousands do at present*; spending the hallowed time in vice and idleness; exhibiting themselves in such forms of wretchedness as disgrace humanity, and shocking the ears of decency almost as often as they speak.

22d March, 1800.

## No. XIII.

*Of the Comforts of the Poor.*

THE *comforts* of the poor lie within a small compass: they should therefore be respected. Mere animal existence is not sufficient for rational creatures. To sweeten the cup of life, to sooth pain, and to relieve labour, man must enjoy *comfort here*, and his views must be directed to *happiness hereafter*.

One great source of comfort to the *poor man* is, HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN, if he can but earn the means of maintaining them. Humble and insignificant as he may appear abroad, he is of consequence and authority at home. In *his own house* he finds those who respect him, who obey him; those, to whom he may say, go, and they go, and come, and they come. He is not insensible to the charities of father, son, and husband. The parental affection of the poor is increased by imperious necessity, and by the helpless condition of their offspring. When sick and dispirited, it is to them the greatest of comforts to be attended by those who love and regard them;—by those who have an interest and anxiety in their existence. In times of sickness and distress, the stoutest heart may be overcome by the forcible separation of husband and wife, of parent and child; whose mutual attachment, (even if HUMANITY could for a moment be silent on so interesting a subject) it would be POLICY to encourage, as an incentive to virtue, and a surety for conduct.

The poor man, poor as he is, loves to cherish the idea of PROPERTY. To talk of *my* house, *my* garden, *my* furniture, is always a theme of delight and pleasure. When, therefore, his whole domestic establishment is overwhelmed and destroyed by a removal into the workhouse, can we wonder that he should grieve for the loss of those things, which *by use were become precious to him*? The apartments of the workhouse may be better than his cottage; but he does not like to exist as a mere lodger, or a permitted guest, tho in a finer mansion than his own. The diet of the workhouse may be more wastefully abundant, than any which he possesses or even desires at home; but his cottage diet, tho poor and scanty, is *his own*; he has earned it by his labour; and it is sweeter to him than more costly food, which he is taught to consider as gratuitous and unmerited. His PAUPERS coat is warm; but it belongs to the *community*, and not to *himself*.—And are not these prejudices respectable? Are they not consonant to the energy of a free country?

The poor man is reconciled to *poverty*, by the possession of LIBERTY. However pressed by narrowness of circumstances,—however impelled by necessity to labour, yet still it is one of his comforts and pleasures, that he is *free*;—that he may go out or come in, work or play, at his own option. He likes to be the judge of his own wants, and to provide for them after his own manner. He even chuses to have the free and unmolested determination, whether he shall boil or bake his Sunday's dinner. Under *confinement* he can enjoy no comfort;

the very thought of being under *lock and key* is hateful to him: no man, in his opinion, deserves a *prison*, who has not committed a crime. To be of little consequence in the community, to have no authority beyond the narrow limits of his own cottage and garden, he is reconciled to. Habit, a second nature, has made him easy under it; but he has an unconquerable aversion to arbitrary rule being exercised over all his actions. And is it in England that one would wish to extinguish these feelings?

Some part of the poor man's comfort, (often, it must be acknowledged, more than his true friends would wish) is placed in **SOCIAL ENJOYMENT**. When, however, the labourer does not carry this indulgence to an excess prejudicial to his own happiness, or to that of his family, who will not say, "much good may it do him."—If, after his week's labour, he should love to relax a little in that place which affords "an hour's importance to the poor man's heart," the gratification cannot be very blameable, while it does not pass the bounds of discretion. The evening chat at a neighbour's door, the Sunday's church-yard politics, the holiday festivities, the rustic games, and athletic exercises, are as welcome to the cottager, and afford as much relief after care and labour, as the more costly and fashionable amusements of the rich.\* To get drunk, to

\* Much of the preceding part of this paper is taken, tho with variation and addition, from *Observations on the Rights and Comforts of the Poor*, inserted in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of the year 1787. It is submitted to the reader, with



sqander at an alehouse what ought to maintain his family, is worse than wrong or imprudent:—IT IS UNJUST AND WICKED. In this world, it causes the ruin of those who depend upon him, and who look up to him for subsistence;—of that wife, and of those children, to whom he should be attached by every tender tie:—and, as to the next world, we read in holy Scripture (and “GOD is not a man, “that he should lie”) THE DRUNKARD SHALL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD.—If, however, you wish the cottager to be more domestic, and thereby to become more happy, aid and encourage him in the comfort and cleanliness of his little mansion;—give him pleasurable occupation at home, in the care of his pigs and cow, and in the cultivation of his garden;—assist him in the education of his children, and in the habits and resources of life. When more interesting objects present themselves at home, the alehouse will soon be *forgotten* and *neglected*. Many in all ranks of life take refuge in a public house, for want of satisfactory occupation at home.

Lastly, the great and essential comfort of the poor, and particularly in old age and in sickness, is RELIGION. In labour and fatigue, in sorrow and anxiety, it is *most consoling to the afflicted mind* to look up with habitual hope and gratitude to

a view of suggesting to his mind, how greatly the present mode of (what is called) RELIEF, viz. the removal of the cottager's family, from his own dwelling into a parish work-house, is inimical to the comfort of the poor, and destructive of those feelings, and of that energy, among them, which it is our duty and interest to preserve in full force.

THAT BEING, whose tender mercy is over all his works. It is by confidence in his wisdom and goodness, and by the hope of unfailling happiness hereafter,—by these consolations delivered to us in his revealed will,—and by these only,—that the rugged path of life can be smoothed, the crooked ways of man be made straight, and the rough places plain. It is, therefore, of infinite consequence that the poor should have the full benefit of RELIGION ; that they should be taught, in the sanctuary of GOD, the use of those gradations of rank and wealth, which in infinite wisdom he has thought fit to establish in this transitory life, as stimulants to the industry and energy of man ;—and that he should be instructed to look forward to that blessed state, where “ they shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more ; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters : and GOD SHALL WIPE AWAY ALL TEARS FROM THEIR EYES.”—To the aged this *comfort* is of peculiar importance. At a time, when the power of labour and activity is enfeebled, and the gratification of the senses diminished and exhausted, it is, indeed, true charity to give the poor the advantage and comfort of religious meditation ; and to open their eyes, and raise their hopes, to those scenes of bliss, which become brighter, and more enchanting, as we approach the confines of the grave.

24th March, 1800.

## No. XIV.

## NOTES

AND

## ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS,

COLLECTED BY A MEMBER OF  
THE COMMITTEE.*Rewards by Farmers Society, p. 56, l. 19.*

IN the premiums of the Manchester Agricultural Society, which are liberal and well arranged, there are rewards of three guineas each offered to parish apprentices of farmers, for diligence and good behaviour; and (that being a dairy country) of five guineas to the dairy woman, who makes the greatest quantity of cheese in one year, in proportion to the number of cows, not less than twenty. There is also a silver medal given to the master or mistress of any servant obtaining a premium for the longest servitude.

*28th March, 1800.**Rewards by Farmers Society, p. 58, l. 1.*

The annual distribution was made in the end of April last, to 30 claimants, all gratified and honoured by the reward; and yet the whole annual expense of

Distribution  
of rewards in  
April, 1799.

that, which produced so much virtuous and useful emulation among the poor of that neighbourhood, has been only £16. 14s. 9d. Irish currency.

28th March, 1800.

*Dublin House of Industry, p. 101, l. 11.*

To the conductors of hospitals and all public institutions, there is no more essential caution can be given, than what respects the tradesmen employed. Without great attention, their employments will grow into sinecures, and their duties degenerate into jobs. It is material frequently to recall them, and all other acting powers, to first principles; and for every trustee to be able to lay his hand on his heart, and to say, he has taken at least as much care of the public interest entrusted to him, as he would have done, had it been his own private concern.

Caution as to tradesmen employed by public institutions.

28th March, 1800.

*Dublin House of Industry, p. 102, l. 8.*

On the subject of Count Rumford's boilers and roasters, I repeat part of what I have inserted, as a note to the account of the Foundling kitchen, in our first volume;—that “in every instance “that has come within my knowledge “of their not having succeeded, *the failure has “been occasioned by the improper waste of fuel.*”—The daily allowance of fuel for the roaster of the

Caution as to use of fuel in Count Rumford's kitchens.

Foundling, where dinner is drest for 250 persons, is *one peck of coal-dust, mixt with one peck of cinders*. The same quantity of fuel is allowed for the great boiler there, which contains 123 gallons, and also supplies a steam-box, that dresses 200lb. of potatoes. More fuel, or better coal, would injure the iron-work and flues, by intenseness of heat, and defeat the object, as to economy both of food and fuel.—Care is taken that the apertures into the flues are perfectly closed, that of the fire-place shut, and the cover of the boiler, and the door of the roaster so close, that neither steam or heat will pass.

25th March, 1800.

*Charity for Lying-in Women, p. 128, l. 8.*

In the Manchester Infirmary, upon the suggestion of Mr. Simmons, a plan has been adopted for the assistance of poor women during child-birth. It may deserve the attention of other medical hospitals.—Upon notice from a regular midwife, of a difficult case of delivery, the surgeon of the district, or, in his absence, the one next in rotation, immediately attends *gratis*, and assists the poor woman at home. This occasions no additional expense to the Infirmary, except that of the medicines where wanted. The cases that have occurred, have been few, but they were all cases of difficulty, and would have been attended with extreme danger without such medical aid.

24th March, 1800.



*Charity for Lying-in Women, p. 129, l. 13.*

It seems to be much better that poor women should be attended at home, and receive a little pecuniary or other assistance at their lying-in, than that they should be received into a lying-in hospital. The relief is given them at home at a tenth part of the expense, and they are capable in a very few days of managing and assisting in their families: whereas, in the other case, the woman is usually absent a month, her family neglected during her absence, some parochial charge incurred, and she returns home with habits of life unsuited to her situation, and this with a tenfold expense to the charity.

On lying-in hospitals.

24th March, 1800.

*Cork Society, p. 141, l. 31.*

It must give infinite satisfaction to those, who are anxious for the promotion of true christianity, and reject the exclusive bigotry of sects, appreciating the various denominations of christians "by their fruits," to see how honourable for pure and genuine charity, has been the co-operation of christians of different persuasions in the formation of the Society at Cork.—The president is the worthy bishop of the diocese; the first vice-president, a very respectable man, Dr. Moylan, the titular (or Roman Catholic) bishop of Cork;

Christian spirit of the founders of the Cork society.

and the secretary, the reverend Mr. Hincks, a dissenting clergyman of high character and estimation in that town. How happy for mankind, if there were many such examples of the true christian temper ; and if (to use the words of the reverend Mr. Burgess, in a former Report) "all the efforts" of the different denominations of christians, "from "however distant points they may originate, were "to centre in a friendly competition in doing "good."

16th Nov. 1799.

*Manchester House of Recovery, p. 158, l. 16.*

By the desire of Dr. Percival, one of the original promoters of the House of Recovery at Manchester, I add a note, to state that fever wards were established by Dr. Haygarth, in the Chester Infirmary, in 1783, thirteen years before the adoption of the measure at Manchester. The regulations which Dr. Haygarth prepared for the establishment at Chester, are stated at length, with much approbation, by Mr. Howard, in his account of Lazarettos, p. 209.—In 1790 the Rev. Sir Wm. Clark established various regulations at Bury, not only for the cure, but for the general prevention of fevers ; and, in 1795, similar regulations were introduced at Ashton-under-line.—I trust the example will soon be adopted for the benefit of other populous places in England.

4th Oct. 1799.

*Manchester House of Recovery, p. 159, l. 12.*

It will give the reader much pleasure to hear that Dr. Haygarth, who first suggested, and carried into effect, the idea of houses of recovery for preventing the spreading of the contagious fever, and who has, during the course of the last 30 years, kept a journal of those cases, with a view to form a system of experimental and practical knowledge on the subject, is preparing to publish, for the benefit of the public, the result of his inquiries; a work which, I am persuaded, will be of infinite use in checking the ravages of that dreadful disorder, the typhus fever; known by the various names of the *jail*, the *ship*, the *camp*, and the *hospital* fever; and also of the *low*, the *nervous*, *putrid*, *malignant*, and *pestilential* fever. With his permission, I have inserted in the Appendix to this volume, an extract from the directions he has given as to visiting persons in infectious fevers; hoping that at the same time as they prevent the wretched sufferer from being deserted by his neighbours, they may have the effect of preserving the charitable visitor, and the affectionate attendant, from the calamity which they are endeavouring to relieve.

25th March, 1800.

*Manchester House of Recovery, p. 162, l. 17.*

It is a subject of satisfactory congratulation, that the Manchester House of Recovery is proceeding, with still greater effect and benefit to the poor of that place and

On the subject of infectious fevers.

Progress of the House of Recovery.

neighbourhood. The preceding severe winter has been as unfavourable to the health of the poor, as that of 1794; yet the prevalence of fevers in this last winter has borne no proportion to that of the former one. In the winter of 1794, the fever patients entered on the home list of the Infirmary, from the streets immediately around it, amounted to 400; a number exceeding the whole that have applied from every part of the town, and its neighbourhood, during the last year. There is another very gratifying circumstance, the diminution of the proportion of mortality among the patients of the House of Recovery. In 1796, it was nearly one in eleven: in 1797, one in thirteen; and in 1798, not quite one in eighteen. The list is as follows:

Patients admitted from 19th of May				} 247
1796, to 1st January 1797	-	-	-	
Died	-	-	-	21
Admitted in the year 1797	-	-	-	349
Died	-	-	-	27
Admitted in the year 1798	-	-	-	381
Died	-	-	-	21

Another very important circumstance deserves attention; the check to infectious fevers, in that place and neighbourhood. The the house is open not merely to the town, but to any distance of the neighbourhood that can benefit by it, and the poor are indiscriminately invited, nay almost compelled, to come in, there are only eleven patients now in the house. In the course of the preceding year, 260 fever patients have been cured in the House of Recovery, their habitations purified, and the pro-

gress of infection stopped in their respective neighbourhoods ; and with so great a benefit conferred, not only on that town and neighbourhood, but on the human species in general, the total expense this year is under £.700. I heartily wish its prosperity and continuance, and I very confidently recommend the support of it to all those who interest themselves in the welfare of the human species.

3d October, 1799.

*Society at Wendover, p. 168, l. 31.*

The Christmas distribution has been made this day. It has been accepted with great thankfulness by 38 men and 13 women ; who, in the period between the 28th of April and the 22d of December, had contributed in different sums, from 1 shilling to £1. 15s. the sum of £41. 6s. 9d ; and who received, including some extra gifts, the sum of £56. 7s. 4d.

The distribution at Christmas, 1799.

24th Dec. 1799.

*Chester Charity Schools, p. 189, l. 20.*

The want of suitable employment for the wives and daughters of cottagers, and the withdrawing the husbandman from the plough, are increasing evils, that merit attention. In the parish of Pewsey, Wilts, (of which the Rev. Mr. Townsend, who has favoured me with this note, is the Rector) *no male is employed in manufacture.* They have hired a manu-

Of employing women in manufactures.



facturer, who supplies the wool on his own account; and this the women and girls both spin and weave, whilst the men are thrashing, and the boys go to plough. This has been followed in some other neighbouring parishes.—Clothiers are beginning to retire from large towns into villages, where they can rent or purchase water-mills. If, therefore, country gentlemen are upon their guard, they have it in their power to make such terms with the manufacturer, as may effectually unite the manufacturing and the landed interests; by employing all the males in agriculture, and sending females only to the loom. This purpose has no where been so effectually accomplished, as about Leeds in Yorkshire, where tillage and manufacture go hand in hand.

5th Dec. 1799.

*Free Church at Bath, p. 208, l. 6.*

Some delay in opening the free church in St. Giles's has been unavoidably occasioned by the increased demand of the poor upon the soup-house of that district, adjoining to, and in some degree connected with, that church. On this account it has been deemed proper to fit up the soup kitchen there, with twice the accommodation originally intended; and until that could be completed, the necessary repairs and preparation of the church could not well be proceeded in. That part of the work is, however, now completed; and the repairs of the chapel are proceeding in; with

the hope of its being opened, *not as a solitary free church in the metropolis*, but as one, prior only in time, but inferior in size and accommodation, to many free churches, which the active and persevering benevolence of the inhabitants of the metropolis will establish and open for the benefit of the poor.

4th April, 1800.

*Clapham Society, p. 242, l. 32.*

At the last meeting of the society, Mr. Venn read an address, in which he endeavoured to direct the views of the members to the promotion of indus-

Further progress of the society.

try, rather than to mere almsgiving, and temporary relief. It has been generally approved; and the visitors are very active in endeavouring to teach the poor to do for themselves. One lady has bought spinning wheels for flax, and sets both women and children to work; another has opened a second school for little children, to teach them to knit; a third has set up a netting establishment; a fourth has been making inquiries concerning basket-work; a fifth proposes to get a room in her district, in which the children may be employed while the mothers go to work; or be taught to read while the parents are thereby enabled to attend church. At a district meeting, on Saturday the 8th of March, it was agreed to obtain, through the visitors, an accurate account of every person in each subdivision; specifying their wants, faults, employment, wages,

moral character, and children ; and distinguishing their ages, and the work that each of them can do. They are then to proceed to determine the important question, in what way, the best and most effectual relief can be afforded them. The full account of every poor person in the parish will be a basis, upon which to build a structure of real utility. A collection of useful tracts is ordered to be provided, for the visitors to give to the poor, according to their respective situations ; and a collection of the rules has been ordered to be printed, for the purpose of circulation through the parish. It is hoped an entire stop will soon be put to begging, or occasional alms ; as work will be provided for all who are willing to be employed, and a repository opened for the work of the poor.

5th March, 1800.

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*At a meeting of the Society for bettering the Condition of the Poor, on the 4th of April, 1800, it was resolved unanimously, that in consideration of the great services rendered to the Society by their late Secretary, Matthew Martin, Esq. he be elected a Member of the Society, and of the General Committee, for life.*

## No. XV.

## THE GENERAL COMMITTEE.

## PRESIDENT.

THE LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS.

LORD TEIGNMOUTH.

THOMAS BERNARD, ESQ.

JOHN SULLIVAN, ESQ.

THE REV. DR. GLASSE.

The other Members of the  
GENERAL COMMITTEE.RIGHT HON. HENRY ADDINGTON, *Speaker of  
the House of Commons.*

JOHN JULIUS ANGERSTEIN, ESQ.

GEORGE ARNOLD ARNOLD, ESQ.

THOMSON BONAR, ESQ.

SAMUEL BOSANQUET, ESQ.

ISAAC HAWKINS BROWNE, ESQ. M. P.

THE MARQUIS OF BUCKINGHAM.

ROWLAND BURDON, ESQ.

THE MARQUIS OF BUTE.

LORD CARRINGTON.

PATRICK COLQUHON, ESQ.

RIGHT HON. SYLVESTER DOUGLAS, M. P.

LORD DE DUNSTANVILLE.

THE EARL OF EGREMONT.

THE EARL OF EXETER.

DR. GARTHSHORE.

SIR ROBERT HARVEY, BART.

DR. HEBERDEN.

THE MARQUIS OF HERTFORD.  
THOMAS HIBBERT, ESQ.  
SIR JOHN COX HIPPISEY, BART.  
HENRY HOARE, ESQ.  
CHARLES HOARE, ESQ.  
GEORGE JEFFERY, ESQ.  
LORD KINNAIRD.  
MAJOR-GENERAL LEWIS.  
THE LORD BISHOP OF LINCOLN.  
THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.  
JOHN MAITLAND, ESQ.  
WILLIAM MANNING, ESQ. M. P.  
MATTHEW MARTIN, ESQ.  
JOHN MAY, ESQ.  
LANGFORD MILLINGTON, ESQ.  
EDWARD PARRY, ESQ.  
JOHN PENN, ESQ.  
WILLIAM MORTON PITT, ESQ. M. P.  
JOSIAS DU PRE PORCHER, ESQ.  
REV. DR. ROBERT PRICE.  
WILLIAM PRICE, ESQ.  
COUNT RUMFORD.  
THE LORD BISHOP OF ST. DAVID'S.  
JOHN SARGENT, ESQ. M. P.  
THE EARL SPENCER.  
SIR GEORGE STAUNTON, BART.  
JAMES STEPHENS, ESQ.  
RICHARD JOSEPH SULIVAN, ESQ.  
THOMAS SUTTON, ESQ.  
GEORGE VANSITTART, ESQ. M. P.  
NICHOLAS VANSITTART, ESQ. M. P.  
WILLIAM VAUGHAN, ESQ.  
JOHN WARBURTON, ESQ.  
WILLIAM WILBERFORCE, ESQ. M. P.  
THE EARL OF WINCHILSEA.  
SIR WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNNE, BART. M. P.  
SIR WILLIAM YOUNG, BART. M. P.



## No. XVI.

## LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

	1797. £. s. d.	1798. £. s. d.	1799. £. s. d.	1800. £. s. d.
The Earl of Ailesbury, Seamour-place	—	—	1 1 0	
Rt. Hon. H. Addington, Speaker of the House of Commons	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	
Miss Adair, Lansdown-pl	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
S. Aisley, Esq. Kensington	2 2 0			
Mr. W. Allen, Plough- court, Lombard-street	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
J. Allen, Esq. Lincoln's-inn	—	—	1 1 0	
J. P. Anderson, Esq. Billiter- square	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. Gerrard Andrewes, Great Russel street	—	—	—	2 2 0
J. J. Angerstein, Esq. Pall- mall	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	
Richard Arkwright, Esq.	—	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
G. A. Arnold, Esq. No. 12, Queen-street, May fair	—	—	5 5 0	5 5 0
A. Askew, Esq.	—	—	2 2 0	2 2 0
N. Atcheson, Esq. Ely-pl.	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Miss Austin	—	—	—	1 1 0
The Marquis of Bucking- ham, Pall-mall	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
The Marquis of Bute,	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
Lord Viscount Belgrave,	—	—	10 10 0	for life.
Hon. Mrs. Barrington, Cavendish-square	3 3 0	3 3 0	3 3 0	3 3 0
Rev. W. L. Baker, Glou- cester	1 1 0	1 1 0		
W. Baker, Esq. M. P. Hill-st.	—	1 1 0		
W. Banks, Esq. Winstanley- hall	—	1 1 0	10 10 0	for life.

	1797.	1798.	1799.	1800.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
D. Barclay, Esq. Wal-				
thamstow	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Robert Barclay, Esq. Clap-				
ham-terrace	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Robert Barclay, Esq. Clap-				
ham-common	1 1 0	1 1 0		
Mr. R. Barclay, Clapham	—	1 1 0		
T. Baring, Esq. Lee, Kent	—	—	1 1 0	
T. B. Bayley, Esq. Hope,				
near Manchester	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. J. Beadon	—	—	1 1 0	
A. Benner, Esq. Magda-				
len-hospital	—	—	1 1 0	
T. Bernard, Esq. Found-				
ling	52 10 0	for life.		
Mrs. Bernard	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
Scrope Bernard, Esq. M. P.				
Abingdon-street	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
Mrs. Scrope Bernard	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Mr. R. Best, jun. Greenwich	—	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
Rev. Dr. Benj. Blayney,				
Christ Church, Oxford	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
H. Boase, Esq. No. 56,				
Pall-mall	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Thomson Bonar, Esq. Old				
Bethlam	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	
E. Boodle, Esq. Lower				
Brook-street	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
William Boscawen, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
S. Bosanquet, Esq. Forest-				
house, Layton, Essex	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	
Hon. Barth. Bouverie	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Thos. Bowdler, Esq. New				
Norfolk-street	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
Rev Thos. Bowen, Bride-				
well precinct	—	1 1 0	deceased	
Hon. George Bowes	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
W. Bowes, jun. Esq.	5 5 0	5 5 0		
George Bowles, Esq.	—	—	—	10 10 0
Rev. R. G. Bowyer	—	—	—	2 2 0

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W. Bray, Esq. Gt. Russel- street -	—	—	—	1 1 0
T. H. Broadhead, Esq.	—	—	10 10 0	for life.
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J. Brown, Esq. Stoke New- ington	10 10 0	for life.		
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Capt. R. Browne, Royal Bucks Militia	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Mrs B. Browne, East Barnet	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	2 2 0
Mrs. Brown -	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Isaac H. Browne, Esq M. P.	—	—	5 5 0	
T. S. D. Bucknell, Esq.	—	—	1 1 0	
R. Burdon, Esq M. P. Grosvenor-square	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
Rev. T. Burgess, Pre- bendary of Durham	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
J. Burton, Esq. Southamp- ton-terrace -	—	1 1 0	—	5 5 0
C. Butler, Esq. Lincoln's- inn -	—	—	1 1 0	
J. B. -	—	—	1 1 0	
J. B. -	—	—	1 1 0	
The Countess of Cardigan	—	—	1 1 0	
The Earl of Chesterfield	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
The Earl Cowper -	—	—	5 5 0	deceased
Lord Cathcart -	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Lord Carrington	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
The Ld. Bishop of Chester	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
G. Carter, Esq. Canterbury	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Mr. Carr, East Parade, Leeds -	—	—	—	1 1 0
Colonel Cartwright	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
J. Chalie, Esq. Bedford-sq.	—	2 2 0	2 2 0	
G. J. Cholmondeley, Esq.	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	
C. Cholmondeley, Esq. Huntsford, Cheshire	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0

	1797. £. s. d.	1798. £. s. d.	1799. £. s. d.	1800. £. s. d.
A. Clarke, Esq. Caroline- place -	—	2 2 0	2 2 0	
Mrs. Clark -	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
A friend of Mrs. Clarke's	—	1 1 0		
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Thomas Clarke, Esq.	—	—	5 5 0	5 5 0
A. Cochran, Esq. No. 3, Cork-street -	—	—	2 2 0	
Sir John Colpoys, K. B.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
P. Colquhoun, Esq.	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
J. Conyers, Esq. Mount-st.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. Edward Conyers	—	—	1 1 0	
Major Cook, New Ormond- street -	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Cork Society -	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
J. Cotton, Esq. -	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Sir Stephen Cottrell	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
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R. Crew, Esq. Clapham	—	5 5 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
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Richard Croft, Esq. Old Burlington-street	—	1 1 0		
W. Crompton, Esq. Clap- ham -	—	1 1 0		
Rev J. Cumming, Dorchester	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
G. Cumming, Esq. Berner's- street -	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
J. C. a friend of Mr. Bernard	—	—	1 1 0	
The Ld. Bishop of Durham, Cavendish-square	52 10 0	for life.		
The Lord Bishop of St. David's -	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
Rt. Hon. S. Douglass, M. P.	—	—	—	—
Bruton-street	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	

## LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

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	1797.	1798.	1799.	1800.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Lord De Dunstanville	—	—	—	5 5 0
Hon. Lionel Damer, M. P.				
George-st. Hanover-sq.	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Lady Dolben	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Mrs. Dalton	—	1 1 0		
Rev. Mr. Davidson	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Major Desbrow	—	—	—	1 1 0
Hon. Baron Dimsdale	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Miss Dolben	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
P. Duncan, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
T. Dunn, Esq. Lincoln's- inn	—	1 1 0		
J. Dyson, Esq. Palace-yard	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
The Earl of Exeter	—	—	5 5 0	5 5 0
The Earl of Egremont	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
The Earl of Euston	1 1 0			
The Lord Bishop of Ely	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Hon. Edward J. Eliot, M. P.				
Downing street	5 5 0	deceased		
Hon. William Elphinstone	1 1 0			
G. Erving, Esq. George- street	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
George Eyre, Esq.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Mr. Samuel Farmer	—	—	1 1 0	
Edward Fawkes, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
Nath. Fenn, Esq. Botolph- lane	—	10 10 0	for life.	
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Rev. J. Flindley, Manchester	—	1 1 0		
Rev. W. Floyer, Dorchester	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. John Foley	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	
John Ford, Esq.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Mrs. Ford, Upper Brook-st.	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
S. Forman, Esq. Mortimer-st.	—	1 1 0		
Edw. Forster, Esq. Thread- needle-street	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Benj. Megg. Forster, Esq.	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Edward Forster, jun. Esq.	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0



	1797. £. s. d.	1798. £. s. d.	1799. £. s. d.	1800. £. s. d.
Thomas F. Forster, jun. Esq. Hackney	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
J. Forster, Esq. Lincoln's-inn	—	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
James Frampton, Esq.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. Dr. Frank, Abderton, Suffolk	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Mrs. Frank	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
T. Edwards Freeman, Esq.	—	—	—	5 5 0
John Fullerton, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUTCHESS OF GLOUCESTER				
The Earl of Grandison	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Lord Grenville	—	—	1 1 0	—
Rear Admiral Gambier	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	—
General Garth	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Dr. Garthshore, St. Martin's- lane	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	—
Nath. Gauld, Esq.	—	—	—	10 10 0
S. Gazellee, Esq.	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
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G. Godwin, Esq. Clapham- common	—	—	2 2 0	2 2 0
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R. H. Gordon, Esq. Albe- marle-street	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
H. Grant, Esq.	—	—	1 1 0	—
W. Gray, Esq.	—	—	1 1 0	—
Thomas Gray, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
J. Gregby	—	—	—	1 1 0
General Grenville	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	—
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Miss Sarah Grier, ditto	10 10 0	for life.	—	—
Rev. G. Grigby, A. M.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	—

## LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

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	1797.	1798.	1799.	1800.
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Rev. Dr. Grindlay	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. C. De Guiffardiere, Cleveland-row	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Miss C. Gurney, Dawlish, Devon.	1 1 0	1 1 0		
General Gwynn	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Agentleman unknown	1 0 0			
The Marquis of Hertford	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	
Lord Heathfield	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Hon. General Harcourt	1 1 0	1 1 0		
The Rev. Fran. Haggitt	—	—	—	1 1 0
Thomas Hall, Esq. Preston, Candover, Hants	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. Dr. Hamilton, Bruton-street	—	2 2 0		
T. Hammersley, Esq. Pall-mall	—	2 2 0	2 2 0	
A. Hammond, Esq. Southampton	—	2 2 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Robert Harper, Esq. British Museum	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. G. Harper	—	—	1 1 0	
Sir R. Harvey, Bart. Langley Park, Bucks	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
Rev. Mr. Harvey	—	1 1 0		
J. Haskins, Esq. Honiton	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
Rev. George Hayard	1 1 0			
Rev. H. Hayes	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Dr. Haygarth, Bath	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. Mr. Haywood	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
M. Heathcote, Esq. Southampton-st. Bloomsbury	—	—	2 2 0	
Dr. Heberden	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
Rev. Thomas Heberden	—	—	—	10 0 0
Rev. W. Herringham, Ongar	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Lady Hesketh	—	—	—	2 2 0
T. Hibbert, Esq. Chalfont Lodge, Bucks	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	

	1797.	1798.	1799.	1800.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
William Higgins, Esq.	—	—	—	2 2 0
Sir Richard Hill, Bart.	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	
E. Hilliard, Esq. Cowley House, Middlesex	—	1 1 0		
Mr. Hindby	—	—	—	1 1 0
Sir J. Cox Hippisley, Bart.	—	—	5 5 0	5 5 0
H. Hoare, Esq. Mitcham, Surry	52 10 0	for life.		
C. Hoare, Esq. Fleet-street	—	—	—	5 5 0
R. Holford, Esq. Lincoln's Inn Fields	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
J. Hosier, Esq. Gt. George- street	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
General Hotham	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
William Houlston, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
Miss Howard, Grenville-st. Guilford-street	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
H. Hughs, Esq. King's- road	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
Lady Jones, Bolton-street	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Mrs. Jackson, Southamp- ton-row	—	—	1 1 0	
Mr. James, Bedford-street, Covent Garden	1 1 0	1 1 0		
Jeremiah James, Esq.	—	—	1 1 0	
G. Jeffery, Esq. Throg- morton-street	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
Rev. L. Iremonger, Vicarage, near Andover	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	
Mrs. Iremonger	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Miss Iremonger	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Lord Kinnaird, Lr. Gros- venor-street	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
W. Kemys, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
Hon. Mrs. Keppel, Pall-mall	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
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Rev. R. King, Worthen, Salop	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0

## LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

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	1797.	1798.	1799.	1800.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Mrs. King -	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Henry King, Esq. -	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
George Knowsley, Esq. —	—	—	—	1 1 0
The Ld. Bishop of Lincoln, Deanery, St. Paul's —	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
The Lord Bishop of London, St. James's-square 5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
The Dean of Lincoln, Devonshire street —	—	—	—	2 2 0
Lancelot Lee, Esq. -	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
George Lee, Esq. —	—	—	1 1 0	—
The Hon. and Rev. Edward Legge, - 10 10 0	10 10 0	for life.	—	—
Rev. Tho. Le Mesurier, Oxford -	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	—
Major Gen. William Lewis —	—	5 5 0	—	—
E. Beeston Long, jun. Esq. Wimpole-street —	—	1 1 0	—	—
W. Lowndes, Esq. Terwick- house, Bucks - 1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Mrs. Lloyd, Kensington Palace -	—	3 3 0	2 2 0	10 0 0
Mrs. Lloyd -	—	—	3 0 0	—
Rev. William Lloyd —	—	—	—	1 1 0
W. Lucas, Esq. Bromfield, Chelmsford -	—	1 1 0	—	—
Alexander Luders, Esq. —	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
D. Lyons, M. D. Bath, —	—	—	1 1 0	deceased
Rev. D. Lysons, Putney, Surry -	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
R. Warburton Lytton, Esq. Knebworth Place, Herts —	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	—
The Duke of Montrose, Grosvenor-square —	—	1 1 0	—	—
The Earl of Morton 1 1 0	1 1 0	—	—	—
Lord Malmesbury, Spring Gardens -	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	—
Rev. and Rt. Hon. Lord George Murray -	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	—

	1797.	1798.	1799.	1800.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Col. Maclachlan, Gower-st.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
W. R. Maddock, Esq.				
Reading	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Town Malling Society	—	—	1 1 0	
Mrs. Maltby, Bath	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
Miss Maltby, ditto	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
W. Manning, Esq. M. P.	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
R. Mant, Oriel College	—	—	—	1 1 0
Matthew Martin, Esq.	5 5 0	5 5 0	elected for life.	
Ditto, for person unknown	—	—	2 2 0	
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James Martin, Esq. M. P.				
Downing-street	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. T. Martyn, Frith-st.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
J. T. Matthias, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
Mrs. May	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
John May, Esq.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	5 5 0
Rev. John Mayo, St. John's College, Oxford	—	—	1 1 0	
Rev. G. Meech, Dorchester	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
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Sir C. Middleton, Bart.	—	—	2 2 0	
L. Millington, Esq. Berners street	—	—	5 5 0	
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Mr. Mitchell	—	—	—	2 2 0
James Moneypeny, Esq.	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
W. Morland, Esq. M. P.	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
Francis Morland, Esq.	—	—	1 1 0	
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	1797.	1798.	1799.	1800.
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Durham -	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	
J. D. Moxon, Esq. Man-				
chester -	—	—	1 1 0	
Lady Neale, Walhampton,				
near Lymington	1 1 0			
Hon. T. Onslow, M. P.	1 1 0			
Rev. Rich. Ormerod, Ken-				
sington -	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
The Earl of Pembroke,				
Privy Garden	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
The Earl Poulett	1 1 0			
Right Hon. Sir W. Pitt	1 1 0			
Right Hon. T. Pelham,				
M. P.	—	1 1 0		
Right Hon. Lady Maria				
Price -	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Sir W. Pepperell, Bart	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Rev. Archdeacon Paley	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
W. Palmer, Esq. Throg-				
morton-street -	—	—	1 1 0	
T. N. Parker, Esq.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
J. A. Parke, Esq. -	—	—	—	1 1 0
E. Parry, Esq. Gower-st.	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	
John Paul Paul, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
G. Pearson, Esq. Durham	1 1 0	deceased		
John Penn, Esq.	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	
David Pennant, Esq.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
L. H. Petitt, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
Richard Phillips, Esq.	—	—	—	1 1 0
Rev. J. Pinnock, Gower-				
street -	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Miss Pearce, Milbank-st.	—	—	—	1 1 0
W. M. Pitt, Esq. M. P.	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
T. Pitt, Esq. Wimpole-st.	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Mrs. John Pitt, Charles-				
street, Berkley square	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	

	1797. £. s. d.	1798. £. s. d.	1799 £. s. d.	1800. £. s. d.
The Rev. Archdea. Plymley —	—	10 10 0	for life.	—
Mrs. Pollock, Downing-st. —	—	1 1 0	—	—
Josias Du Pre Porcher, Esq. Devonshire-place —	—	—	5 5 0	—
R. Precious, Esq. Coleman- street —	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. Dr. Price, Wimpole- street —	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	—
Mrs. Price —	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
W. Price, Esq. Pall Mall —	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
Barr. Price, Esq. Beckett, near Faringdon —	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Rev. Dr. Prosser, Gates- head, Newcastle —	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0
John Pugh, Esq. Lamb's Conduit-street —	1 1 0	1 1 0	—	—
Rev. Mr. Pym —	—	—	1 1 0	—
Lord Rivers, Hertford-st. —	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Lord Rodney —	—	—	1 1 0	—
The Dean of Rochester —	2 2 0	2 2 0	2 2 0	—
Sir John Russell, Bart. —	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
W. Rathbone, Esq. Green Bank, Liverpool —	—	—	10 10 0	for life.
Mrs. Read, Half-moon-st. Piccadilly —	—	—	1 1 0	—
Thomas Gould Read, Esq. —	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	—
H. Reynard, Esq. —	—	—	—	1 1 0
W. Reynolds, Esq. Coal- brook Dale, Salop —	—	—	10 10 0	for life.
Rev. W. Roberts, Eton College —	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	—
J. Roberts, Esq. King's Road —	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
E. Rolfe, Esq. Heacham, Norfolk —	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	—
Hon. Mr. Justice Rooke —	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
Colonel Rooke —	—	—	1 1 0	1 1 0
W. Roscoe, Esq. Aller- ton, near Liverpool —	—	—	5 5 0	for 5 yrs.

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	1797.	1798	1799.	1800.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
The Earl Spencer, Admiralty	—	5 5 0	5 5 0	5 5 0
The Countess Spencer	1 1 0			
The Countess Dowager Spencer	10 10 0	for life.		
Lord Suffield	—	1 1 0	1 1 0	
Lady St. John, Clarges-st.	—	—	1 1 0	
Lord Sheffield	—	—	—	1 1 0
Lady Sheffield	—	—	—	1 1 0
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